

CHAMPIONSHIP CHALLENGERS ON THEIR CHANCES

SHOOT!

18p

3rd February, 1979

Interview with

SEPP MAIER

West Germany's
amazing 'keeper

WE PICK
OUR TEAM OF

NEWCASTLE POST-WAR 'GREATS'

Final part of our

F.A.CUP WALLCHART

*Manchester United's
new signing Micky
Thomas (right)
holds off a challenge
from Derby defender
David Langan.*



'Looking forward to a happy Easter'

Bob Latchford (Everton)

THE First Division Championship is being so closely contested that if it continues in the same way, it could be decided in the very last week of the season. At the beginning of the New Year, it appeared that no side was going to walk away with the title, and because the issue is so close, it's important Everton stay as consistent in the second half of the season as they were in the first.

Holiday times can decide where a team is going to finish up, and over Christmas we did better than a year earlier, when Everton had a bad spell. Last Easter, however, we gained good results, and once again, this holiday period will be important, so in 1979 we'll be concentrating on winning over the Easter weekend.

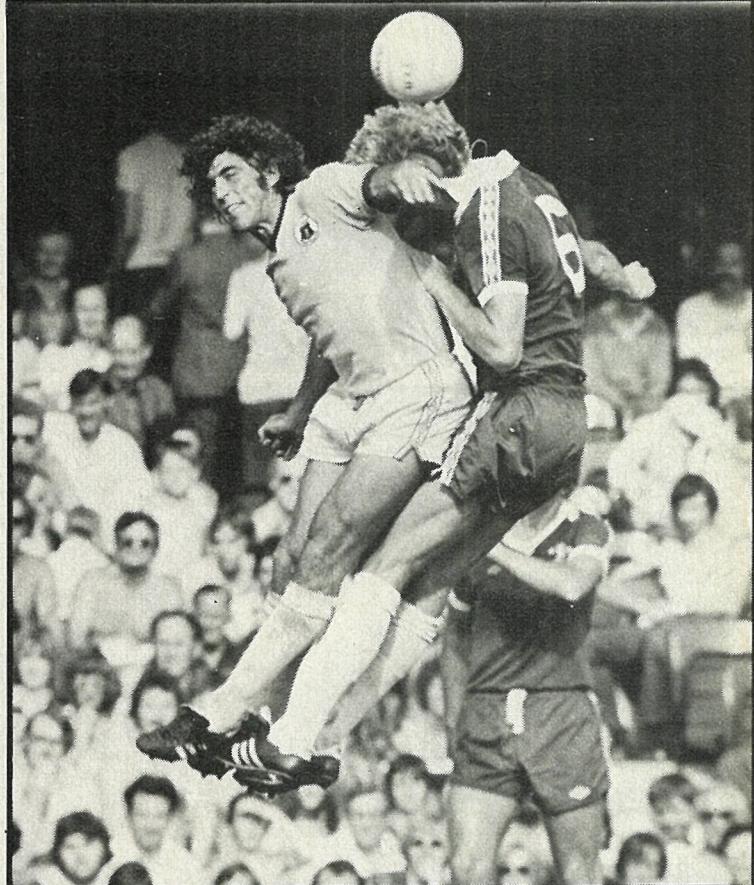
We are due at Anfield next month, and early in April are away to West Bromwich Albion. These two games against Albion and Liverpool will be vital. So far this season, West Bromwich haven't been badly hit by injuries, which I

wouldn't wish on any team, but if one or two of their players receive knocks, Albion lack the strength in depth of Liverpool and Everton, and may not easily replace key-men.

At Goodison, Everton have had their share of injuries, though we have kept going and can't afford to give any points away. I rate Liverpool and West Bromwich as our chief rivals, and Albion have had a period similar to Nottingham Forest last season, when they kept on winning.

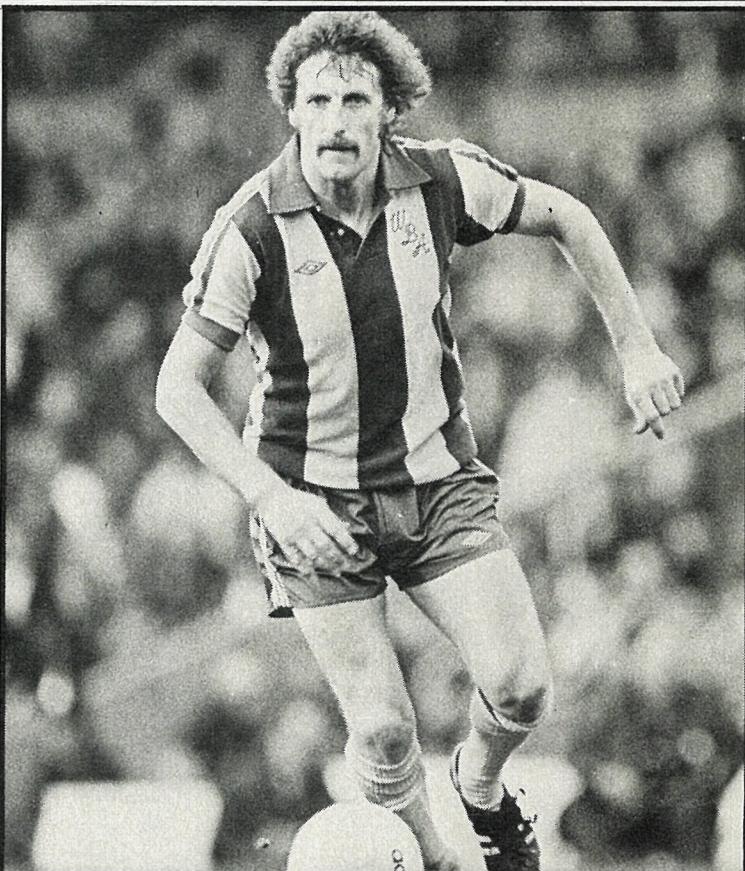
During this time of year, all sorts of ground conditions can be expected, but I believe we can do well on any type of pitch, though naturally I favour a playing surface which can give our ball-players the opportunity to use their skills to the maximum advantage.

I think Everton have a first-class chance of lifting the title, and one way we can do it is by being consistent right through to the end of April. That is our target.



Four representatives
from leading clubs on

'OUR CHANCE



'Confident — but not over-confident'

Tony Brown (West Brom)

I THINK our chances in the First Division Championship race are good. We have based our success so far on attacking football. We are especially geared to this type of game because of the players we have. We believe in going forward, starting with our full-backs, and it is a style which suits us best.

Furthermore, our manager, Ron Atkinson, insists on a positive approach to any game — we don't concentrate on defending.

Winning the title is all about consistency, and in this respect, West Bromwich can point to a good record. Since Ron Atkinson took over, 13 months ago, we've lost only a handful of League matches. He's instilled in us the right sort of attitude.

And Liverpool, whom I rate our biggest rivals for the title, also keep on picking up the points. In comparison to them, our playing pool is not so strong in depth, but

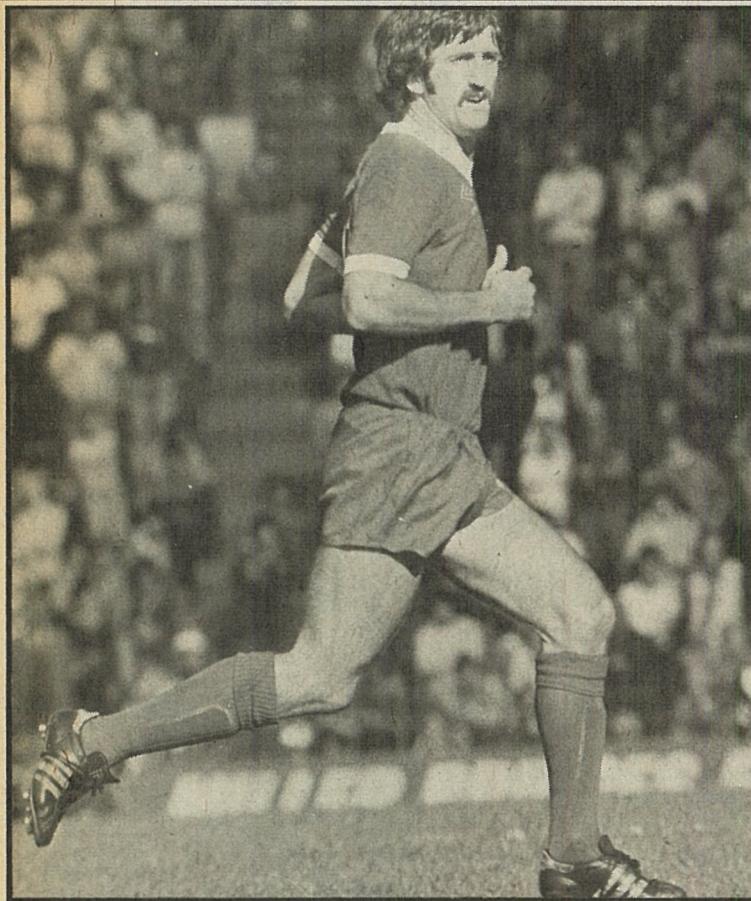
we compensate for this by having players who can be successfully switched around if we suffer any injuries.

Later in the season we have games against the other teams at the top, and apart from a match at Anfield, we take on Everton and Arsenal as well, with the prospect of each game being vital to Albion.

While the title could go to any one of us, I still fancy Nottingham Forest to come through with a strong challenge between now and the end of the season.

At The Hawthorns, we observe one important rule — we don't dwell too much on our hopes of lifting the Championship, and keep talk about it down to the minimum. Albion are a confident side, but try to guard against over-confidence, preferring to take each match as it comes.

So far, this technique has worked pretty well for us.



'Pressure and heavy grounds won't worry us'

Dave Johnson (Liverpool)

LIVERPOOL started the New Year at the head of the table, so we must have a definite chance of finishing as League Champions, though we were in a better position over two months ago when we held a convincing lead at the top.

We expect tough competition from the other leading clubs, and at the moment I rate West Bromwich Albion as the chief threat to Liverpool's title hopes, followed closely by Everton.

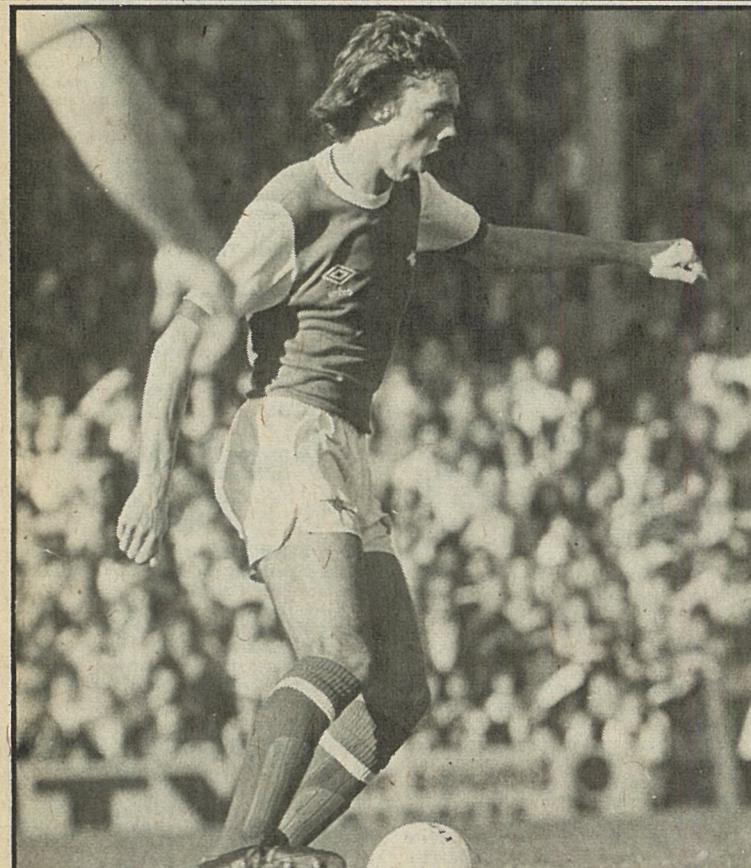
Up to the start of 1979, Albion could do no wrong, and it's logical to assume they will carry on in the same way. People might say they lack the strength of playing pool we have at Anfield, but there is no proof West Bromwich are weak in reserve strength. The position has not yet arisen where they have been forced to make changes for any reason, so I judge them on what they have accomplished to date.

Despite their early F.A. Cup exit at Sunderland, Everton show no signs of flagging in the League and this is due to their change of tactics since last season. In 1977-78, they scored a lot of goals and also conceded a good number, whereas this term they are scoring less, and are also harder to score against. It all adds up to Everton going well from now until April.

And I don't think that Liverpool, Everton, West Bromwich or Arsenal are going to be put off by heavy grounds or any type of playing surface in the weeks ahead. Teams with title aspirations are usually well equipped to cope with any conditions. I know Liverpool are.

We can also adapt well to pressure. Our experience probably makes us better at doing so than our rivals. A word about rivals. Nottingham Forest are still competing strongly in League and Cup competitions, so they certainly must come into the reckoning.

'OF TAKING THE TITLE'



'New signings could boost our title hopes'

David O'Leary (Arsenal)

WE'VE got a fighting chance to win the title, and at this stage I firmly believe the biggest obstacle to our hopes is Liverpool. They are the team to beat, the side that stands in the way of any club wishing to become First Division Champions. If Arsenal can finish above Liverpool, then we'll know we have made it.

And as regards our bid to finish on top, I feel our playing pool is possibly under-strength at the present time despite our star signing of Brian Talbot from Ipswich. Arsenal have made several bids for other players, which have been unsuccessful due to the ridiculous fees being asked by clubs.

Ideally, I reckon that with one more top class player we would be able to cope with most situations that can arise. As it is, we are knitting together efficiently and compare well with our rivals.

Everton, for example, are not my choice as title-winners. They can be difficult to play against, yet

overall are definitely lacking that certain something that is essential in a top-class side, and are certainly not anything like as good as Liverpool.

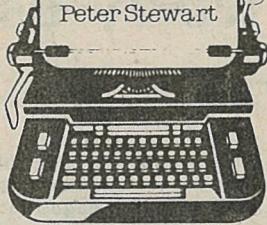
I don't want to harp on too much about Liverpool, but the fact can't be ignored that in game after game they maintain a winning rhythm. As contenders, Arsenal, too, need to keep up their momentum, and try to avoid a falling-off in performance.

A team that turned in some fine performances round about Christmas are West Bromwich Albion, but they still don't impress me too much. They did beat us at Highbury, though I considered they only played really well in their opening 20-minute spell.

Later in the season we play West Bromwich and Liverpool away, so there are some hard struggles ahead. I'm looking forward to Arsenal holding their own in both of them.

NEWS DESK

Compiled by
Peter Stewart



CREWE Alexandra have two players who are with their eighth club — Neil Warnock and Jimmy Robertson.

Robertson's career spans 500 League and Cup appearances and Warnock has played more than 300 games with Chesterfield, Rotherham, Hartlepool, Scunthorpe, Aldershot, Barnsley and York.

But Crewe's most seasoned campaigner is player-manager Warwick Rimmer. Rimmer has played more than 600 games in a two-club career with Bolton and Crewe.

SHEFFIELD Wednesday manager Jackie Charlton knew exactly where to turn to when his defence was wrecked by injuries — to his old pal Lawrie McMenemy.

"That's what friends are for," he commented with a smile, when he returned to Hillsborough with £60,000 Southampton centre-half Mike Pickering.

Industrious Stein

BRIAN Stein (right), the 20-year-old Luton striker who has made such an impact on the game this season, is quite an industrious young man.

His biggest ambition is to see Luton in the First Division and proving himself in it. On top of that he is interested in social work and also wants to obtain a coaching badge.

He first made his debut for Luton in the League Cup against Manchester City and impressed all with his skilful play.

Brian has certainly had a fine grounding, having had spells with North Paddington Boys' Club, Crouch End Vampires, Sudbury Court and Edgware Town.

His brother, Edwin, had a spell with Luton before moving on to Harrow Borough. Another brother, Mark, plays cricket for Brondesbury and Middlesex.

Odd Man Out!

NORTHERN Ireland defender Pat Rice (Arsenal) holds the unenviable record of being the first and so far only Irishman, from either Ulster or Eire, to skipper a losing post-War Wembley Cup Final team.

Pat's captaining The Gunners in their 1978 F.A. Cup Final defeat by Ipswich meant the Highbury ace failed to emulate victorious Emerald Isle skippers such as Johnny Carey (Manchester United), in 1948, Danny Blanchflower (Spurs), in 1961 and 1962, and Noel Cantwell (Man. Utd.), the following year.

'No vendetta at Dundee'

**declares manager,
Tommy Gemmell**

DUNDEE manager Tommy Gemmell isn't too happy with the suggestions about personality clashes at Dens Park. Despite this five players have asked for a transfer this season. They are Thomson Allan, Iain Phillip, Billy Pirie, Jocky Scott and John McPhail.

"There is no question of personal vendettas between me and any of these players," says Gemmell. "It's simply a question of first team football. Obviously every player wants a regular game in the top side, but there can only be 11 players and that leaves people out. It's my job to pick the best team for the club."

Recently Gemmell admitted his team needed "at least another four players to get into the Premier Division."

Dens Park certainly seems a busy place these days!



Why Chelsea might have to keep Ray Wilkins

ONE reason why Chelsea are reluctant to sell their most valuable asset, Ray Wilkins, could be because their creditors would claim most of the fee. So it's pointless Chelsea selling Wilkins if they can't use the money to strengthen their side.

It's sad to see Wilkins, so obviously talented, struggling to find his old form this season. He now faces a fight to stay in the England team. It's odds on when England play Northern Ireland at Wembley next week, Ron Greenwood will choose Trevor Brooking and Tony Currie as his play-makers.

PARTICK Thistle have completed their new £27,000 floodlighting system and a new platform area for TV crews. Says manager Bertie Auld: "We're now ready for the cameras."



SLIGO Rovers, the League of Ireland Champions in 1976-77, are having a disastrous season and to add to their troubles, Jim Lemon has returned to Tulsa Roughnecks much sooner than expected.

FACTastic

ON December 3rd, 1955, Brighton met Norwich City at Hove in the Third Division (South) and thrashed them 6-0. The following week they met again at Brighton in the Second Round of the F.A. Cup — and victory went to The Canaries 2-1.

MANCHESTER CITY's Polish international import Kazimierz Deyna has moved into a new house at Wilmslow.

The first visitor was City's secretary Bernard Halford.

IT never rains but it pours! Soccer players know only too well this feeling when nothing goes right.

Graham Oakey, Coventry City's very promising defender, is currently going through this kind of experience.

He had ligament trouble last season and then suffered cartilage trouble early this term.

The problem for Graham was he had to build-up the ligaments before he could have an operation for the cartilage trouble and then found himself back to square one.

MIDDLESBROUGH manager John Neal has been persistent over his search for talent outside of the Football League.

After failing to sign Rene Houseman (Argentina) and Jackie Vergnes (France), he has tempted Yugoslav international Bosco Janovic over for trials at Ayresome Park. Janovic, 28, can play in midfield or centre-forward.

Janovic is training to be a lawyer.

WOLVES' manager John Barnwell has launched a daily search for new players.

"Initially, I would like three or four," says Barnwell. "We have a fair squad of youngsters, but they are not quite ready for first team football."

Persistent Neal

'OLIVE' — a soccer addict



ANNA KAREN (above), best known for her roles in the popular television series "Rag Trade" and as straight-faced Olive in "On The Buses", is a self-confessed soccer addict.

She sits glued to football on the television and supported Leeds at Wembley in 1973 when Sunderland beat them in the F.A. Cup Final.

"It was disappointing for me. I was a Leeds supporter — but only because Jack Charlton played for them."

She has also supported Manchester United — "but only because Bobby Charlton was in the team."

Now, she has turned her allegiance to Liverpool "who play a great game of football."

TRIBUTE TO WOKING

ONE of the bravest and best performances of this season so far was by Isthmian League Woking in the F.A. Cup Second Round against Swansea City.

Few people gave much for their chances when they were drawn to play at the Vetch Field. But Woking confounded everyone by forcing a replay after twice being behind.

It was the same at Woking as Swansea raced into a two-goal lead and then led 3-1 at half-time.

But the plucky Surrey side took the game into extra-time with spectacular goals by Alan Morton, Tony Field and Les Barrett, before eventually going down 5-3.

After such a scare it was good to hear Swansea's player-manager John Toshack, and hat-trick hero Alan Curtis, pay tribute to Woking.

Curtis said: "They are among the best sides we have played this season, and are a credit to non-League football."

Toshack added: "Woking were very well organised and although I honestly never felt we would lose the tie, they perhaps gave one or two of our players a lesson in terms of courage and fighting spirit."

Country Boy

STEVE Brignall, Arsenal's promising 18-year-old midfield player or defender, may have signed for a team in England's capital city but he is a country boy at heart.

The Tenterden, Kent, born youngster says: "There is nothing I like better than being in the country and walking round the fields. I really enjoy the country way of life."

BLACKPOOL were playing their first League game at Swansea for 42 years when they travelled to South Wales on December 30, 1978.

HERE's a tip for the top from SHOOT columnist Danny McGrain, the Celtic skipper who is fighting his way back to peak fitness. In a recent reserve match at Parkhead he was impressed by Rangers' teenager, John McDonald. "The boy was brilliant against us... he's a great prospect," he said.

McGrain couldn't have been too impressed by his own team-mates, though... they were hammered 7-0!

THE Republic of Ireland's decision to join the Common Market, has meant a wave of price increases in the country. The decision may put the League of Ireland clubs in a better bargaining position and help them get realistic transfer fees from English clubs.

Con Follows Family Tradition

IT came as no surprise when Glenavon's one-time Northern Ireland Youth international defender Con Davey made the grade in senior soccer.

In his early footballing career, stylish, talented Con had no fewer than three top mentors in his own family — dad, Hugh Davey, the former Portsmouth and Ireland striker, and older brothers Pat and Terry, both of whom played Irish League soccer with Coleraine and Portadown, respectively.

And the 26-year-old Glenavon skipper hasn't quite given up hope of emulating his illustrious dad by gaining full Northern Ireland honours!

BRISTOL City have signed six foot striker Ian Doyle from Western League club Barnstaple for £4,000.

He comes from Torquay and joined the town's club as an amateur at the start of last season. He joined Barnstaple at the start of this season.

He has also been watched by Aston Villa, Sheffield United, Exeter City and Luton Town.

MANCHESTER County F.A., have launched a scheme to attract schoolboys to their refereeing courses.

"We think there are boys interested in learning about refereeing, as well as playing, and we're prepared to give them all the help and encouragement we can," says F.A. official Jock Haig.

Anyone interested should contact Mr. Haig, Manchester County F.A., Brantingham Road, Chorlton, Lancs.



CHARLTON's captain Keith Peacock (above) made his 500th full appearance in the Football League for the Second Division club against Brighton on December 23.

He is only the second Charlton player to achieve that milestone. Who was the other one? A fearless and agile goalkeeper who became one of the game's most popular personalities and now writes for a Sunday newspaper. Yes, you've guessed — Sam Bartram. Sam played 623 games for Charlton, 579 in the League, 44 in the Cup.

FORMER Chelsea striker Ken Swain became the 26th player to appear on first team duty for Aston Villa this season when he made his debut against Norwich City.

Lean time for Larnach

IS Mike Larnach an unlucky omen for Motherwell as they strive to stay in the Premier Division? He left Clydebank last season as they headed for relegation and joined Newcastle for £100,000. Newcastle, of course, slipped into the English Second Division at the end of the term and then he moved to Motherwell for £60,000 three months ago. Now 'Well are struggling to stay in the Top Ten.

It's been an unhappy time altogether for Larnach, who built a great reputation in Scotland a couple of years ago with his goal-snatching ability. Sadly, he has scored only one goal in the past year! That came against Hibs at Fir Park... but Motherwell still lost 3-2!

LIVERPOOL striker David Johnson's wife gave birth to a baby girl in Clatterbridge Hospital, Heswall, near Liverpool, on January 2.

The baby weighed in at 8lb 12oz. She has been named Katie.

"We wanted to call her Laura Jane," explained David. "But Kevin Keegan, and his wife Jean, good friends of ours, chose that name for their little girl."

Unlucky Colour

THE age-old belief that green is an unlucky colour is strongly reflected in soccer. Of the Football League's 92 clubs only two — Norwich City and Plymouth Argyle — have any green at all in their regular official strip! It shows what an extensive superstition exists in top-level soccer.

BOLTON Wanderers enjoyed Boxing Day. Apart from earning a point with a 1-1 draw at Middlesbrough, several players had a flutter on a 2-1 winner at Sedgefield. Assistant-manager Stan Anderson is part-owner of Badsworth Boy.

DUNDALK suffered a setback recently when captain Mick Taylor was injured. To cover for the talented midfielder, manager Jim McLoughlin has signed Liam Devlin from Shelbourne.

Another triumph for Clough

BRIAN CLOUGH, Bell's Manager of the Year for 1978, is a man who makes news and breaks records.

Nottingham Forest's 42-match unbeaten Football League record began on November 26th, 1977, and ended at Anfield on December 9th, 1978.

A few days later, Clough was cheered from the City Ground when he collected his ninth Manager of the Month award. A record for First and Second Division managers. Watford's Graham Taylor has since won his tenth award, but all those were in the Third and Fourth Divisions.

The Bell's Whisky awards are now among the most coveted in the game. They started the scheme in August, 1969, and the first winner was — yes, that's right, that man Brian Clough, who followed up with a double a month later as his newly-promoted Derby County hit the First Division with an exciting brand of soccer which has become the hallmark of teams managed by this amazing manager and his right-hand man Peter Taylor.



AMAZING results achieved by teams from the lower levels in the Third Round of the F.A. Cup gave the false impression that the ability gap between them and those of the First Division had closed considerably.

I don't want to seem uncharitable, but the above-average number of Cup upsets can be attributed to two factors.

First, the weather, which is always a great leveller. The freak snowstorms that swept the country had created skating rinks of pitches, and uneven ones at that.

Games were reduced to lotteries. A bad bounce, a slip by a defender, and a vital goal could be gifted to a lucky "underdog".

Second, and most important of all, was the fact that most teams had not played for about a fortnight due to postponements.

A lay-off affects First Division players more because they lose their pace, that extra yard of speed. They're like highly-tuned engines and need constant running.

Consequently, when they resume playing they move at the slower pace of those of the Third and Fourth Divisions.

They even lose their quickness of thought, so that they are unable to bring their superior skills into use.

I don't want to take too much away from the "Cup shockers" but the odds were weighted more in their favour last month than usual.

I said in my preview of Liverpool's tie with Southend away at Roots Hall that we would have preferred a First Division team, whose players and style we well know, to an unpredictable side from the Third.

Before the kick-off, a blizzard had covered the pitch there with around three inches of snow, and the groundstaff had to clear it away from the lines every five minutes.

Although the conditions were barely playable, we had our fingers crossed the ref wouldn't call off the tie, as we were all eager to get back into action. The longer the lay-off, the more rusty a player becomes.

The treacherous surface made it impossible to string passes together, and the tactic was to kick and rush and hope that a forward would be favoured by a bounce that caught out the opposing defence.

The ball was bright orange, but often picked up so much snow it was hard to see in the floodlights.

Our big dread was that Southend would sneak a goal, which would have settled the tie. In those conditions it could have proved impossible to peg one back at Anfield.

They came near to scoring in the 25th minute, when their busy centre-forward Derrick Parker broke through.

As usual, when the ball is around the centre-line, I had been prowling around the penalty-spot studying the play.

I saw Derrick start a run as a team-mate shaped to make a pass. Our back-four was caught square, and he collected the ball and swept through.



'Three inches of snow at Roots Hall'

unexpected, for they had managed to draw with Everton at Goodison Park in the Cup a few seasons ago.

Ardiles and Villa, the two Spurs' Argentines, could have been excused for playing poorly as the conditions were far removed from customary ones in their home country, but from all accounts they were about the only players who could walk off the White Hart Lane pitch with their heads held high.

At the time of writing, I don't know the result of the replay at Maine Road, Manchester. Spurs should have got the measure of the non-Leaguers and given them the K.O., but Altrincham may have created another piece of soccer history.

West Ham added to their catalogue of Cup catastrophes by crashing out. Newport now join Mansfield and Hereford as clubs

RAY CLEMENCE
talking soccer



'WINTER WEATHER MAKES GAMES A

He was around 40 yards from goal, but because the ball was bobbling he could not keep close control and was forced to punt it ahead of him, ten yards at a time.

I timed my interception just as he made the kick to bring the ball to the edge of our "box", and fly-kicked to safety.

That save has been compared to a similar one I made in the 1977 European Cup Final against Borussia Mönchengladbach's Stielike, and although it wasn't as spectacular it was just as vital.

For as I've pointed out, we felt that one goal would have sealed the fate of either team.

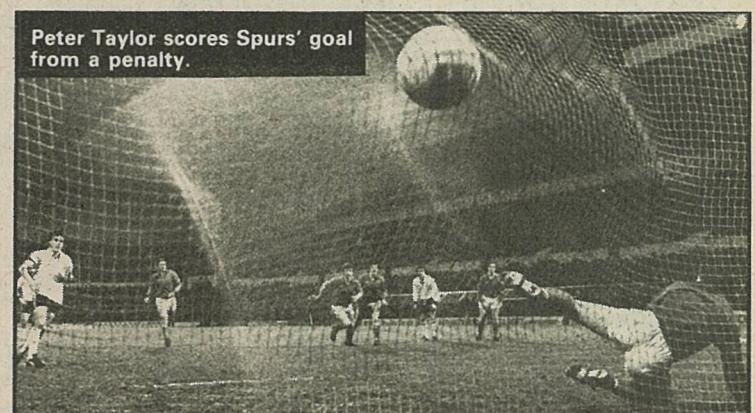
Our best chances were provided by Davey Fairclough. First he struck the ball across the face of their goal. If it hadn't been deflected by an unsighted defender, it would have gone straight to a lurking Terry McDermott, who seldom makes a mistake from close in.

On the second occasion, Davey volleyed the ball at the far post, only to see it again rebound to safety off a defender, who knew nothing about it until the ball struck him.

And so Southend deservedly earned a replay at Anfield, which to them was their Cup Final.

The biggest shock of the round was non-League Altrincham's feat at White Hart Lane, when they held First Division Spurs to a one-one draw. But perhaps this wasn't too

Peter Taylor scores Spurs' goal from a penalty.



'Non-League Altrincham held Spurs at White Hart Lane'

who have hammered The Hammers.

Southern League Maidstone did tremendously well in coming away from the Valley, Charlton's home, with a 1-1 draw after taking the lead. It wasn't until the 70th minute that Charlton's Mike Flanagan got their goal.

A sign of Charlton's frustration was the flare-up between Mike and his team-mate Derek Hales, which resulted in both of them being sent off.

It's a common thing in football for

team-mates to have disagreements in the heat of the moment, and to shout at each other, but I've never in all my years in the game seen two swopping blows.

Our rivals on Merseyside, Everton, were given the big boot out of the competition at Roker Park, by Sunderland, the team that won the Cup in 1973 by beating Leeds United, then in full flight, by one-nil with an Ian Porterfield goal. Incidentally, Ian's present club is Sheffield Wednesday who did so well to hold Arsenal to a second



LOTTERY'

replay before making their departure.

Gordon Lee, The Blues' manager, gave a clue to the reason for his team's dismissal with the after-match comment: "Their hearts were bigger than ours!"

The right attitude is so important in football, especially when the climate negates the difference in skill between two sides.

A great deal of criticism has been levelled at clubs for not taking precautions to ensure that snow and ice did not cause a breakdown of fixtures.

Certainly, more First Division clubs should install some type of coverage, such as the hot air balloon at Leicester City, but many lower Division clubs lack the finance to invest in it.

A cheap method would be to cover pitches with straw, as is done by Rugby League clubs, but a possible problem would be presented by the residue of straw which would make passing difficult.

But so far no one has yet come up with an infallible method of beating Jack Frost. I'm told that at Arsenal, who have undersoil heating, the ground began to harden in the second-half of a game as the temperature dropped, and made it difficult for players to keep their feet.

On Saturday, January 13th, our pitch at Anfield was ruled unfit

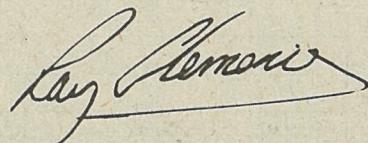
for a League game against Birmingham, and our replay with Southend was put back from the following Monday until the Wednesday. I'm writing this column on the morning of the replay, and obviously I'm looking forward to a convincing win which will bring us a Fourth Round home tie against Blackburn Rovers.

Since Fred Pickering, the ex-Everton centre-forward, took control of Blackburn they have steadily improved, and we won't be underestimating them.

The majority of their team are, of course, unknown quantities to us, but we are very familiar with John Radford, who played against us for Arsenal in the League and — an unpleasant memory this — helped them to beat us 2-1 after extra-time in the 1971 F.A. Cup Final at Wembley.

Then "Big Raddie" was assisted by Ray Kennedy, who is now one of our key players, and looking forward to meeting-up again with his former partner-in-goals.

Wish us luck — without it, no team ever wins a Cup!

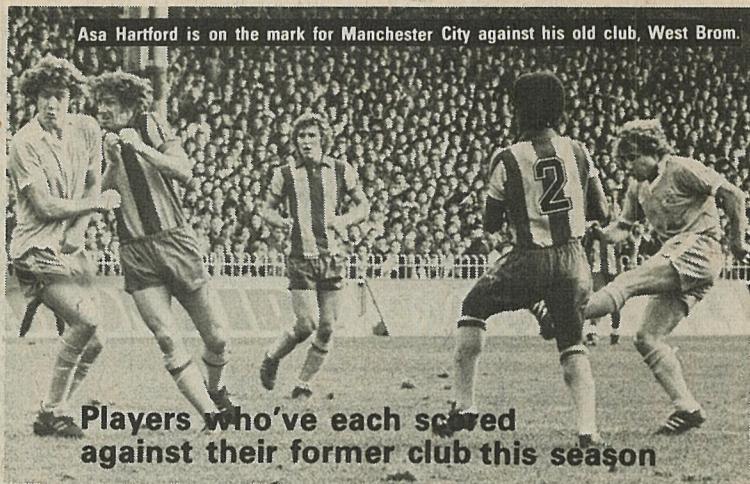


ACTION, EXCITEMENT, CONTROVERSY and IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS comprise the February issue of Soccer Monthly ... ingredients which make this an issue not to miss.

There is something for everyone, lots of it in colour, and enough talking-points raised to stimulate a full-scale debate.

- Study the colour preview of England's crucial European Championship match against Northern Ireland at Wembley.
- Read Celtic and Scotland full-back Danny McGrain's stinging attack on the game in England.
- Flick through the pages of Johan Cruyff's fascinating career-diary of goals, drama, bookings and international fame.
- Hear what Peter Osgood thinks of his return to Chelsea and what he can do for his 'favourite' club.
- Discover the extraordinary background of Mario Kempes rise to fame and of his years as a fat, slow unwanted defender in Argentina.
- Colin Todd's move to Everton has revitalised his career to the extent that he reveals his ambition to captain England.
- Tony Woodcock's career as seen through the eyes of the manager who almost got him from Nottingham Forest for peanuts.
- Brian Glanville of The Sunday Times looks at the value and varied faces of soccer management.
- Go behind the scenes at Elland Road and discover the amazing ups and downs of Leeds United.
- James Lawton investigates the 'Liverpool Phenomenon', Jimmy Sirrel tells what it is like to be Nottingham's "other manager" and more ... lots more.

GET **SOCCER**
MONTHLY
AND GET INSIDE THE GAME



Asa Hartford is on the mark for Manchester City against his old club, West Brom.

Players who've each scored against their former club this season

Hat-trick for Dave Gwyther

WHEN this season is over and done with what will emerge, would you say, as the most extraordinary, not to say bizarre, chain of events among them all?

SHOOT are prepared to go out on a limb and assert straightaway that a high, if not top, spot will be taken by the incredible succession of matches in which this player and that has popped in a goal or two when in conflict with his erstwhile team-mates.

It's always been a fact that there's no other triumph a striker covets and enjoys more than scoring against a club to which he used to be attached — and how strikingly that belief has been underlined by what has gone on this season!

It's elementary human nature, of course, isn't it, that on such occasions a player is keyed up towards pulling out that little extra. It's as if he says to himself: "I'll show 'em what they missed by giving me

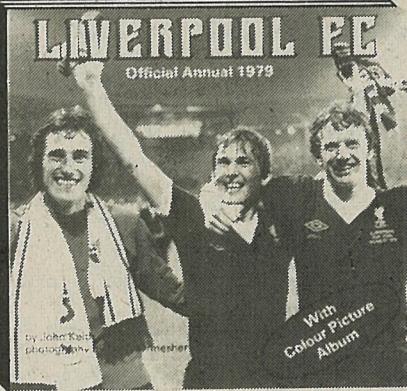
a transfer."

The amazing extent to which soccer's strikers have "rubbed it in" during the season in a fantastic catalogue of cases where goals

have accrued to players opposed to their old clubs. It's actually happened 34 — yes, THIRTY-FOUR! — times (up to the end of 1978), as you will see here:

For	Against	Date
Tommy Gore	Tranmere	Aug 12
Martin Chivers	Southampton	" 19
Ted MacDougall	Norwich City	" 19
Peter Burke	Southampton	" 19
Gordon McQueen	Halifax Town	" 23
Bryan Robson	Manchester United	" 23
Chris Nicholl	West Ham United	" 23
Dave Smith	Southampton	" 23
Dave Gwyther*	Rotherham United	" 23
Howard Kendall	" "	" 23
Alan Biley	Stoke City	" 23
Bobby Gough	Cambridge United	" 23
John Froggatt	Colchester United	" 23
Peter Anderson	Northampton	" 26
Stuart Robertson	Sheffield United	" 30
Bobby Hoy	Northampton	" 30
Tony Currie	Rochdale	Oct 7
Mike Elwiss	Leeds United	" 10
Bernie Wright	Crystal Palace	" 14
Brian Hornsby	Port Vale	" 18
John Duncan	Sheffield Wed.	" 21
Asa Hartford	Derby County	" 21
Martin Peters	Manchester City	" 28
Andy McCulloch	Norwich City	" 4
Duncan McKenzie	Brentford	Nov 4
Trevor Ross	Chelsea	" 4
John Dungworth	Everton	" 11
Graham Souness	Aldershot	" 18
Gerry Daly	Liverpool	" 25
Bob Latchford	Derby County	Manchester United Dec 9
Ron Guthrie	Everton	" 9
Alan Gowling	Fulham	" 16
Peter Noble	Bolton Wanderers	" 22
Colin Prophett	Burnley	" 23
	Chesterfield	" 26

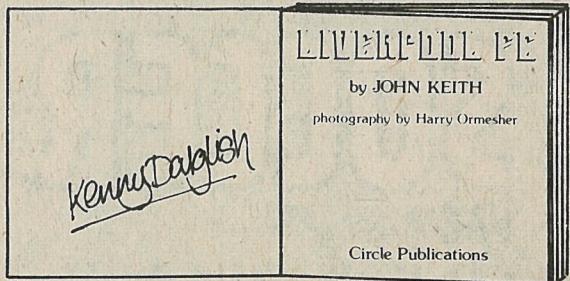
*Dave Gwyther actually extended his "brotherly love" against his former Swansea colleagues to the point of making it a hat-trick!



LIVERPOOL

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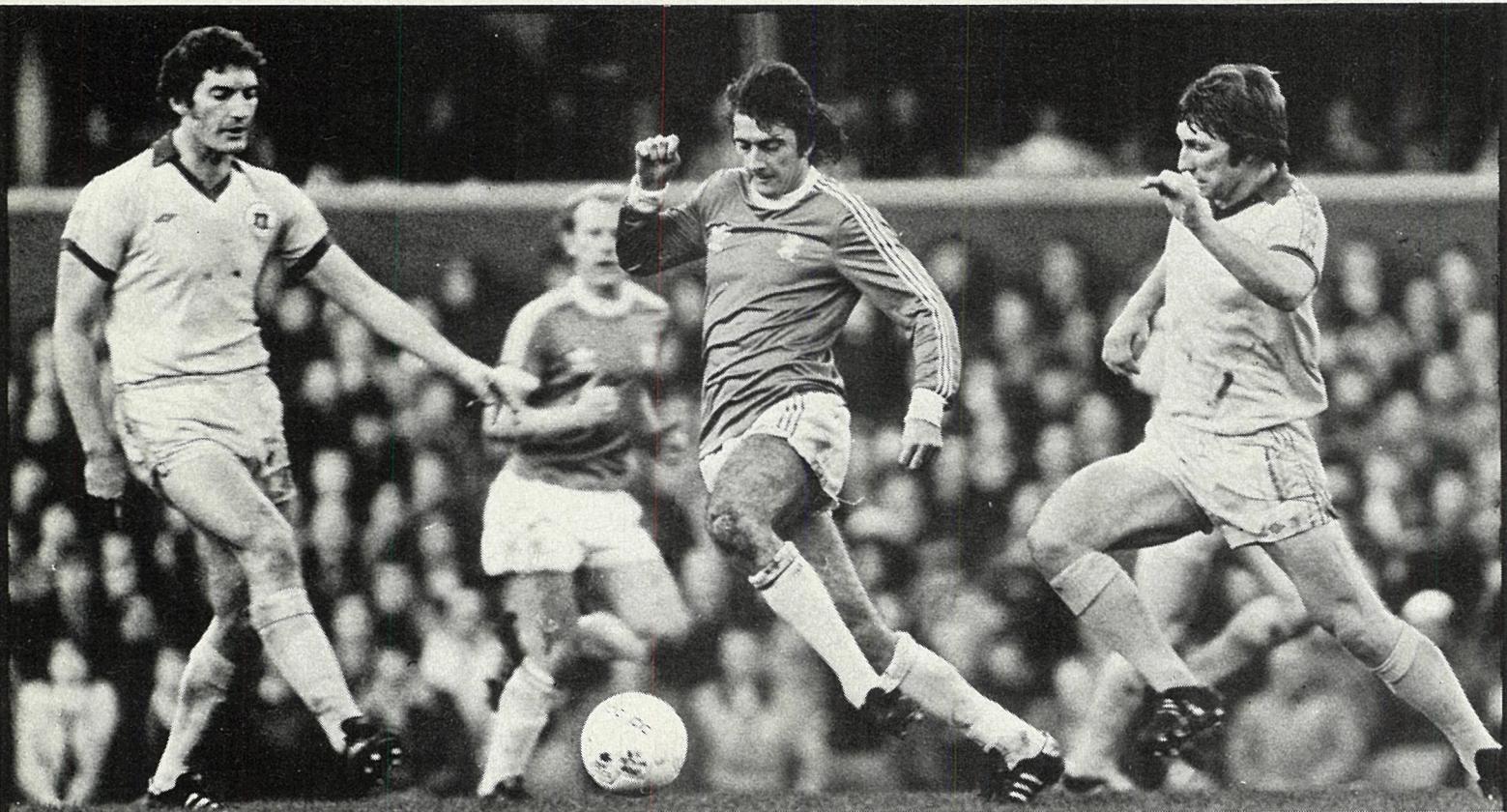
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SHOOT 10



Francis on the ball against Everton in December. Brum lost 3-1.

WHAT MAKES TREVOR FRANCIS WORTH £1 MILLION

MOST of Middlesbrough was staggered when the directors of the North-east club decided to splash-out a four figure fee on England forward Alf Common in 1905.

"They can't be serious. No man's worth that amount," muttered fans knowingly over pints of frothing ale in pubs around the town.

But the transaction between Sunderland and Middlesbrough went ahead in February of that year and made history. When Common put his head through the main gate at Ayresome Park for his first day's training he represented the first four figure transfer.

Twenty-three years later Arsenal's fans became equally excited, if rather pessimistic, about the wisdom of the Highbury club's decision to pull off the first five figure transfer which took David Jack from Bolton to Highbury for £10,340 in October, 1928. Their fears were groundless as Arsenal's England forward became a key figure in the club's glory days 40 years ago.

Transfers which appeared to go through the roof were guaranteed to make big headlines and shock until recent seasons.

Now, when a manager calmly places a £1m price on a player's head, directors, players and fans hardly bat an eyelid.

The average British soccer fan was more interested in finding a route to work when the railways went on strike last month than they were in stories from Bir-

mingham that Trevor Francis could go for £1m.

What price a player? When a child is blessed with the limbs that Francis was given at birth, the sky's the limit. If a player is good enough, he is worth breaking the bank to grab from rivals. That has become the philosophy of the more progressive managers at a time when exceptional talent is a priceless and rare commodity.

Trevor Francis is such a player. His sophisticated skills, breathtaking acceleration at the heart of panicking defences, and almost cruel liking for cracking the ball past helpless goalkeepers has hoisted him to the super-star bracket along with Johan Cruyff, Franz Beckenbauer, Pele, George Best and Kevin Keegan, England's favourite son.

But Francis remains as level headed as the day he first signed for Birmingham. With rumour and counter rumour, statement and denial, buzzing across the threshold of St. Andrew's boardroom with clubs clamouring for Francis's services last month, the England forward was content to shrug off the speculation and talk about Birmingham's fight for survival.

His attitude was simply: "If I go, I go. But until I go, there is a job of work to be done here."

"The Blues have been in relegation trouble before and have got clear. We are all working towards doing so again."

"It's not easy to enjoy yourself when you're at the bottom but

players have a duty to try and entertain the public. The fans pay good money to watch football matches these days — and it's up to us to provide entertainment, not go moping because our sides may not be doing very well."

"I keep an analysis of where I played and how I did. Birmingham supporters know what I can do, but there are grounds throughout the country where I have not played particularly well."

Trevor Francis' future knows no frontiers. The soccer pitches of the world are his playground. There are no limits imposed when a manager can say of a footballer: "Trevor, you're worth a million."

FRANCIS FACTS (up to start of this season)

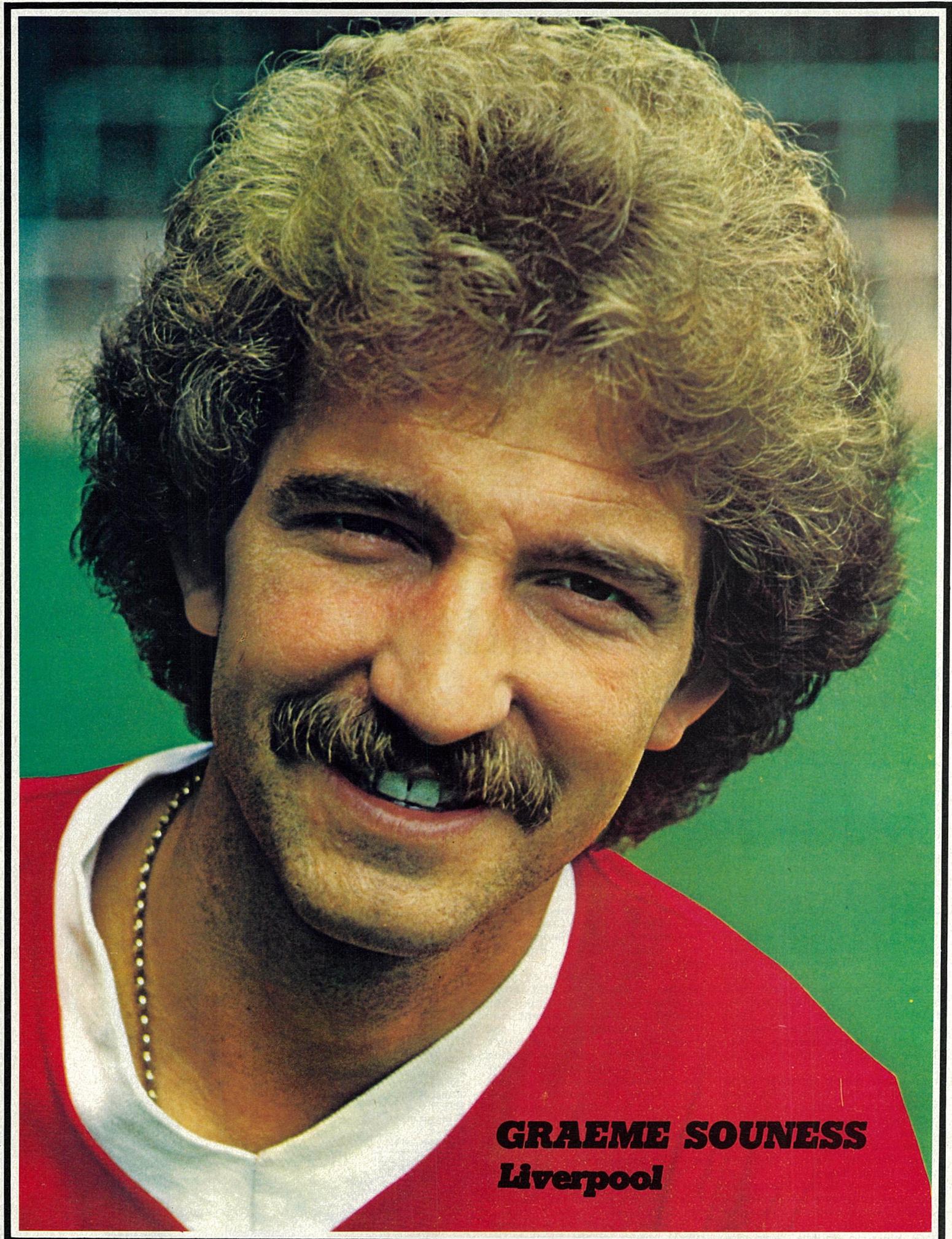
	Goals
1970/71	15
21 League games + 1 sub	
1971/72	12 + 2 F.A.
39 League games	
1972/73	6 + 2 L.C.
31 League games	
1973/74	6 + 1 F.A. + 1 L.C.
37 League games	
1974/75	13
23 League games	
1975/76	17 + 1 F.A.
35 League games	
1976/77	21
42 League games	
1977/78	25 + 2 F.A.
42 League games	
TOTAL 270 + 1 sub	115 + 6 F.A. + 3 L.C.

F.A. = F.A. Cup;

L.C. = League Cup

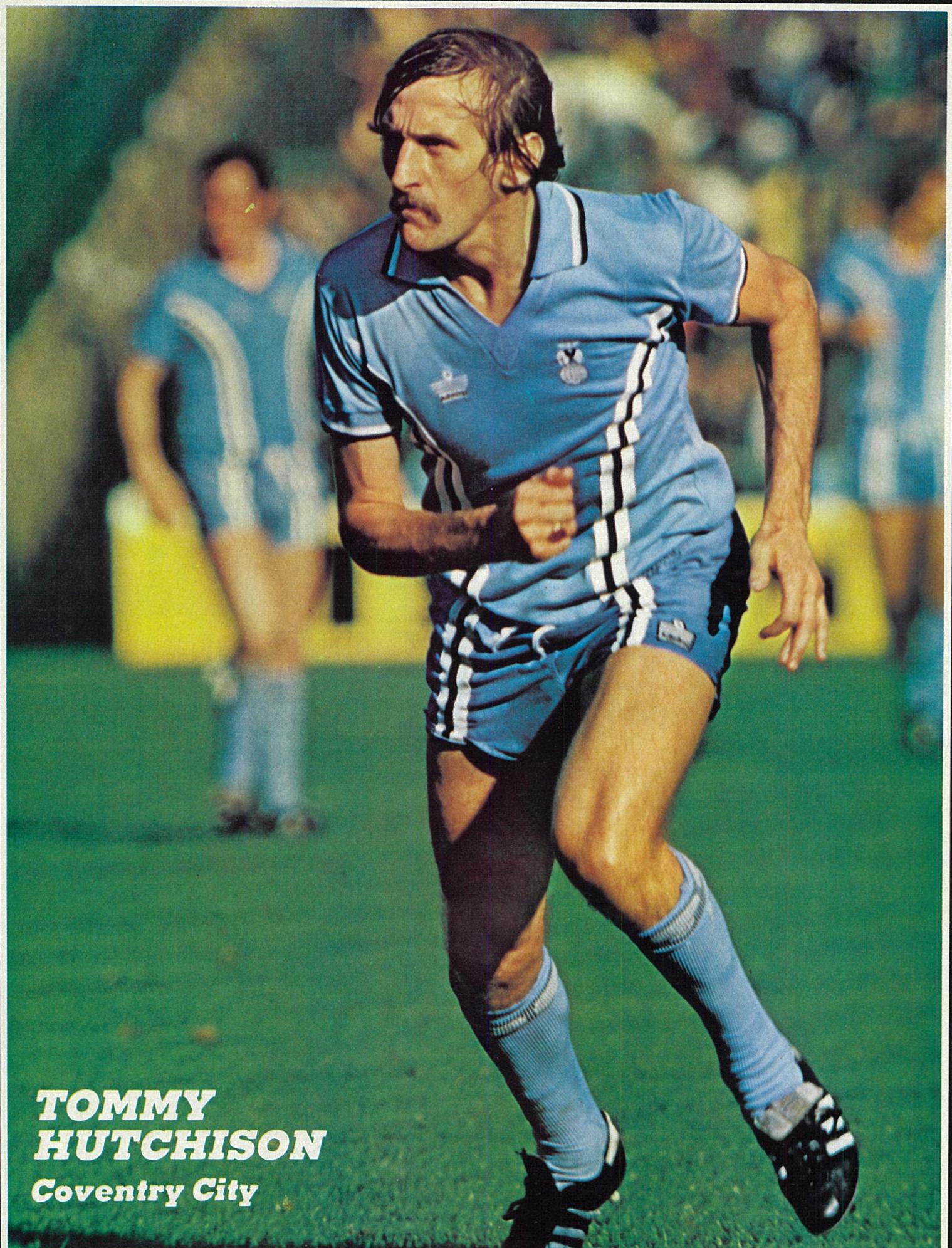
12 Full Caps and 2 goals;
5 Under 23 caps and
10 Youth caps





GRAEME SOUNESS
Liverpool

SHOOT!

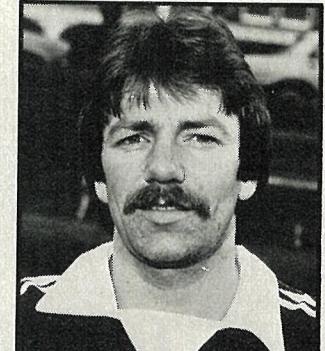


**TOMMY
HUTCHISON**
Coventry City

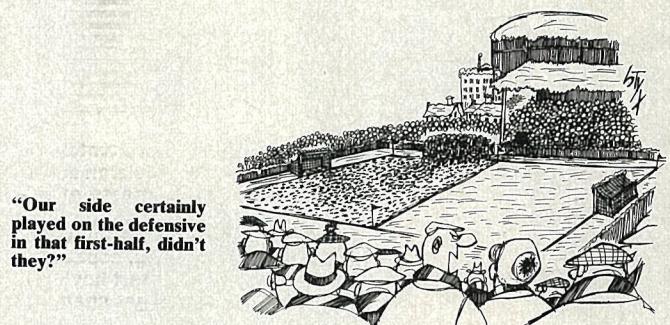
FOOTBALL MANNIES



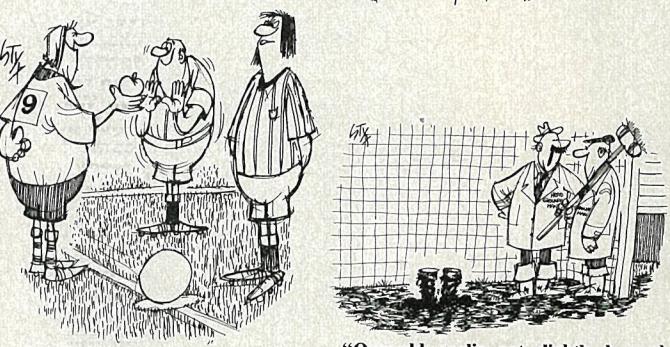
"Don't forget — don't shout goal if our lot score — just whisper"



This week Aberdeen and Scotland defender STUART KENNEDY selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



"Our side certainly played on the defensive in that first-half, didn't they?"



"Creener!"

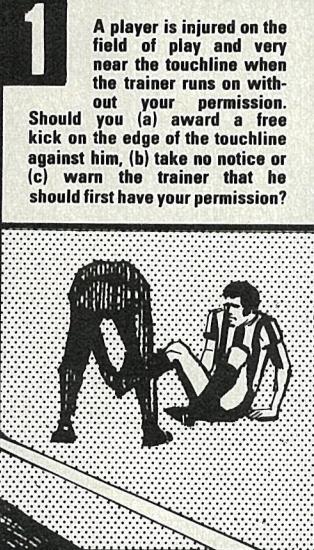


"The way United are playing — I don't think it matters"



YOU ARE THE REF

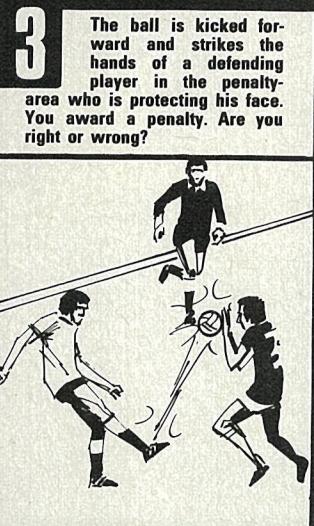
Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS



A player is injured on the field of play and very near the touchline when the trainer runs on without your permission. You (a) award a free kick from the edge of the touchline against him, (b) take no notice or (c) tell the trainer that he must have your permission?



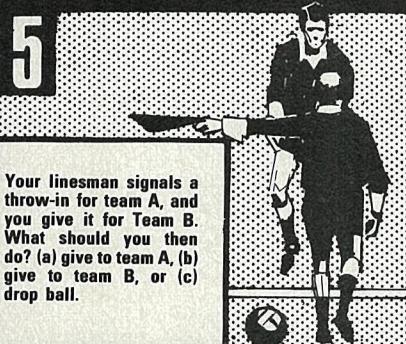
2 After checking through the players' studs just before the match, you notice one set does not conform with requirements. Should you (a) warn him, (b) make him change his studs or (c) allow him on the field after a caution?



3 The ball is kicked forward and strikes the hands of a defending player in the penalty-area who is protecting his face. You award a penalty. Are you right or wrong?



4 When a corner-kick is taken the ball touches a linesman standing ten yards away on the goal-line, then on to a forward who scores. Should you (a) award a goal, (b) drop ball, or (c) indirect free-kick against the goal-scorer?



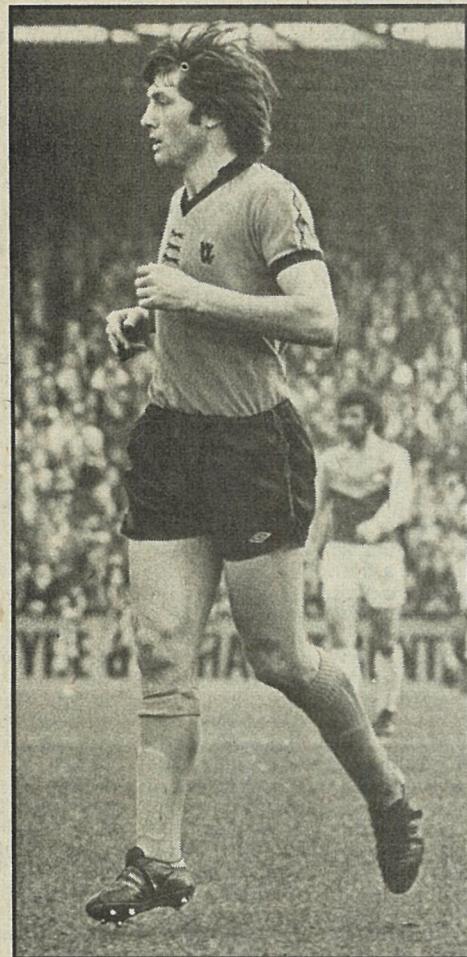
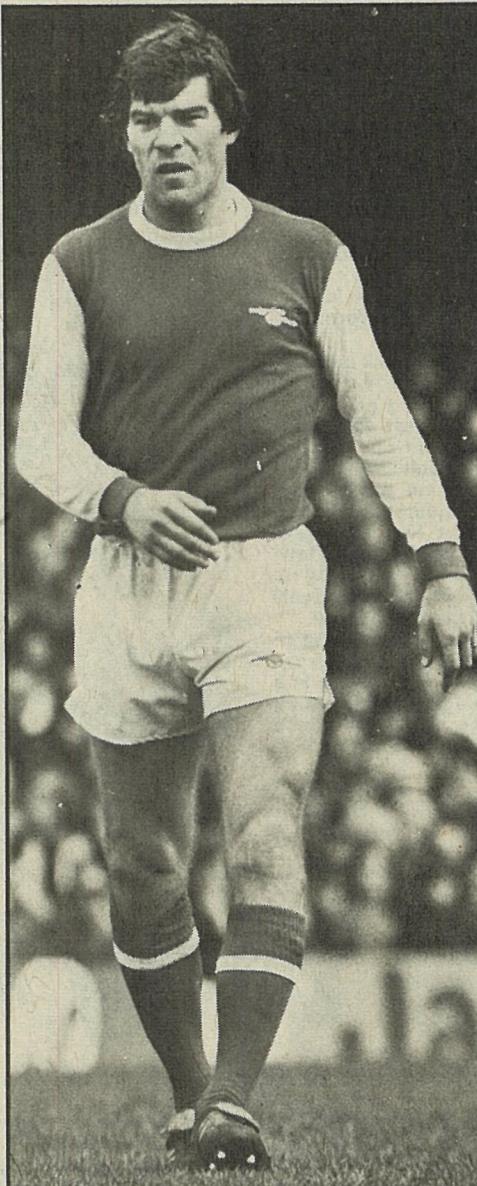
Your linesman signals a throw-in for team A, and you give it for Team B. What should you then do? (a) give to team A, (b) give to team B, or (c) drop ball.

ANSWERS

1. Within the first World Cup match in 1974 between Argentina and Poland, ten minutes before we were due out on the pitch, a linesman told me referee the Argentinian players were studying the studio audience to find out your permission (b). 2. Make change his studies (b). In my first World Cup match in 1974 between Argentina and Poland, ten minutes before we were due out on the pitch, a linesman told me referee the Argentinian players were studying the studio audience to find out your permission (c). 3. Wrong 4. Award a goal (b). Although we scored points just before the linesman should be standing behind the corner-flag for the attacking team, I then insisted that before the linesman should be standing behind the corner-flag for the attacking team. 5. Wrong 5. Team B (b). and therefore I use this principle for all my matches. 6. Team B (b).

GREAT GOALSCORERS... FIGHTING BACK TO FITNESS

Arsenal's Malcolm Macdonald (below) and John Richards of Wolves (right).



WHEN it came to New Year resolutions, Malcolm Macdonald and John Richards had one in common — they both resolved to be back in First Division action early in 1979.

And when they do pull on their coveted number nine shirts for Arsenal and Wolves respectively, football will heave a massive sigh of relief.

In this age of tactical plans, method football and dwindling individualism, players such as Macdonald and Richards are worth their weight in gold and season tickets. They are born, natural goalscorers whose talents are the exception rather than the rule.

And even those fans, whose loyalties lie outside Highbury and Molineux, have to admit two things — their admiration for two players who always pose a threat to the tightest defence and the reality they would probably welcome their arrival if either player changed clubs.

Yet for Macdonald and Richards, memories of 1978 will remain ones of pain, operating tables, hospital beds, fear and frustration.

Macdonald has undergone two operations since May last year, losing cartilages from his right and left knees. His left is now without a cartilage, but that is not the reason why Arsenal's £333,000 England striker has not played a First Division match since the end of August.

Specialist

Recurring fluid on the left knee as the result of playing and training on hard pitches led to a specialist ordering Macdonald to rest his leg completely for a month.

Richards has had three operations on his right knee in the past two years — two of them last year — and has played only two First Division games all season and none at all since the beginning of last September.

Both players finished 1977-78 as their club's leading scorers and both make no secret of the fact that, with Ron Greenwood now leading England's revival, they want to stake their claim for an international return.

Macdonald, with 14 full caps and four at Under-23 level, is also disappointed his contribution to Arsenal's U.E.F.A. Cup run this season was limited to one appearance as substitute near the end of their Third Round second-leg tie with Red Star Belgrade. But now he is looking forward to shaking off his nightmare period of inactivity.

He said: "Yes, it has been frustrating. Injuries are something every footballer has to accept. They are part and parcel of his career. You have periods in your life when everything goes smoothly and you avoid serious knocks. But you must also learn to cope with the periods out of the game, when you are reduced to sitting and watching your team-mates.

"I made up my mind to think positively and therefore avoid getting too depressed. A footballer's career is a short one when compared

with any other profession. So it is always a blow to be denied the opportunity to play for any length of time.

"In my case I have been helped by the fact I sensed something was wrong before it was confirmed I required an operation. I was prepared for the blow and simply wanted to get it over with.

"I have played a handful of reserve matches, but now I am resting the knee and allowing all the healing processes to do their work in peace.

"Ironically, I scored my 250th goal in first-class competition against Manchester City at Maine Road on August 22. Those goals have come for England, at full and Under-23 level, League, F.A. Cup and League Cup. At the time I thought how nice it was to get off the mark again in a new season. That first goal is always a boost, especially when you are only ten goals short of joining the exclusive 200 League Goal club, as I am.

"Now we are in a new year with fresh challenges for everybody. My challenge is to hurry up and score my second goal of the season — the sooner the better, because they are still my professional life-blood."

Richards, capped at Under-21, Under-23,

England B and full level, suffers more watching his team-mates struggle for First Division survival than he does from the after-effects of his troublesome knee.

He said: "I feel totally frustrated sitting up in the stand while the lads are playing, especially if things go wrong and the crowd start having a go. I feel as if I want to go down, get changed and throw caution to the wind.

"But that is something I will never do, not with my whole playing career at stake. I did all my gambling at the end of last season. We needed points to stay up and I decided to play — I wanted to help the team to survive. We did. But I doubt if I did my own career much good.

"This time I am determined to come back only when I am fit and completely ready. And the way things are going that could be in about a month.

"My first operation was to remove small pieces of floating bone — foreign bodies they call them — and the second 'op' was to remove a cartilage after I collided with a goalkeeper. That seemed to be fine until the fluid made it swell up. In the end I was playing but not training.

"The third operation was an exploratory one during which they used a tiny probe camera. They discovered a small piece of cartilage still lodged in the knee plus some tissue which needed removing. Once that was done I noticed the difference immediately. Now I am building up my leg muscles again and I have reached the stage where I can go running without any ill effects.

"I look forward to playing my first game for manager John Barnwell. He and Richie Barker have set the team a completely new challenge. Everyone is out to show what he can do, confidence is slowly coming back and we need the fans to get behind us even more between now and the end of the season.

"I know people said they thought I might be finished. But I believe I have four or five years of professional football to play, and the sooner I get that Wolves' shirt over my head again, the better."

IN a little under two months' time the Professional Footballers' Association will choose their Players of the Year.

This season, perhaps more than ever before, there'll be particular interest in the Divisional awards. That's partly because of so many foreign imports to our game. Will Osvaldo Ardiles, such a major force in Argentina's World Cup victory, have made a big enough impression to get in our First Division "team"?

And will the most expensive players in the country, among them Gordon McQueen, Graeme Souness, Joe Jordan and Kenny Dalglish, gain more votes than less exalted characters?

Here, we study performances of the likely contenders, and in subsequent weeks we'll be looking at all the other Divisions in the Football League.

The teams will no doubt spark-off many a friendly argument. No two people would ever select the same side with so many fine players to choose from. But we don't anticipate much opposition to our choice of number one goalkeeper in the First Division.

After PETER SHILTON had denied Czechoslovakia with a brilliant display at Wembley the general opinion was he had raised the level of his particular art to a new standard, and he was now not only England's top 'keeper ahead of Ray Clemence, but perhaps the best in the world.

Not even Brian Clough could have imagined the huge effect Shilton would have on his Nottingham Forest side following last season's transfer from Stoke City.

Shilton has been a model of consistency. His professional

approach, the way he has fought his way back into the international side after understudying Ray Clemence for so long, has earned him immense credit.

It has been said many times that Clemence and Shilton are unfortunate to have been contemporaries, goalkeepers competing for one spot that, at any other time, they could have expected to monopolise for years.

Perhaps this intense, yet friendly, rivalry has ensured their continued brilliance, and in that situation the only winners have been England.

It has long been shown we are blessed with the best goalkeepers in the world, and here are the two prime examples.

Mention should also be made of Joe Corrigan, Phil Parkes, Les Sealey, Pat Jennings and David Harvey, who are also in top form this season.

The choice of right-back is somewhat more difficult and brings us candidates both young and old.

Without the slightest disrespect we're bound to point out three of the most dependable right-backs in the First Division are players who've been pulling on the number two shirt for many seasons. Pat Rice, of Arsenal, Dave Clement, of Queens Park Rangers and Colin Todd, converted by Everton to full-back, are just three.

Todd has gained a new lease of life since his £300,000 move from Derby to Everton, and playing in a successful side again has acted as a great spur to a player, who once looked a fixture in an England shirt.

Clement has suffered from being at a club where success has been elusive since Q.P.R. were League

Alistair Robertson of West Brom climbs high to head clear an attack from Arsenal.



Leeds United and England midfield star Tony Currie

runners-up to Liverpool in 1975-76.

Yet Clement has never given less than 100 per cent and his unstinting service has been a boon to a succession of managers.

Rice is the "daddy" of an Arsenal side which is promising so much. His experience has been invaluable to players such as David O'Leary, David Price, Liam Brady and Frank Stapleton.

But in the end we can't ignore the claims of VIV ANDERSON, who became England's first black international.

Anderson has gained widespread admiration this season. He is quick, constructive and deadly in his finishing for a full-back. Anderson has quickly become the best right-back in the country.

He owes most of that meteoric rise to Forest's managerial duo of Brian Clough and Peter Taylor. They motivated him to believe in his natural ability, thus converting him from being just another player into one of our most exciting prospects.

On the other flank, there are so many outstanding young left-backs coming through we could

soon have an embarrassment of riches. The merits of Ken Sansom, the young Crystal Palace full-back will be discussed next week, but even omitting him because he's still in the Second Division, we are still left with bright boys like Derek Statham, of WBA, Alan Kennedy of Liverpool and David Stride, of Chelsea.

Others who have caught the eye this season include Arsenal's long serving Irishman Sammy Nelson, who rarely seems to have an off day, Leeds United's Frankie Gray, who has deservedly won himself the number three shirt of Scotland, and Mick Mills, a great competitor, who serves Ipswich and England well.

Statham is without question the most interesting of the young players. He has confidence way beyond his years, sound defensive qualities and a nice turn of speed, which makes him such an effective force on the overlap.

Kennedy is a little unlucky not to have had another England chance since missing out through injury the one time he was selected to play for England against West Germany.

many. His arrival at Anfield has helped him no end and there may still be room in Ron Greenwood's squad for Kennedy, despite the emergence of younger and equally talented left-backs.

Yet after giving you all these names we honestly believe the most consistent left-back this season is Coventry's BOBBY McDONALD.

A player you don't read a lot about, Bobby has an abundance of skill, both as defender and attacker. He has yet to win his first cap, but he gains our vote because of this unfailing reliability.

The centre-back positions really do take some sorting out. Dave Watson is still as good a stopper as you'll find anywhere, and his outstanding contribution to England's revival under Ron Greenwood must never be underestimated.

Gordon McQueen is fitting in well at Manchester United, and young Billy Wright has proved an outstanding find for Gordon Lee at Everton.

West Brom's John Wile, a "cert" manager of the future, is the rock around which Ron Atkinson has



Liverpool's Graeme Souness.

who went, though to be fair to Martin Buchan, the man in his position, he did a fair job, and continues to shine for his club Manchester United every week.

Another contender was the evergreen Paul Madeley, of Leeds, who is just as dependable as he was during the Leeds reign of triumph under Don Revie.

So to midfield. Here the permutations are almost limitless. Without necessarily trying to find the perfect blend we've selected the trio who've been, in our opinion, the most influential midfield men of the season.

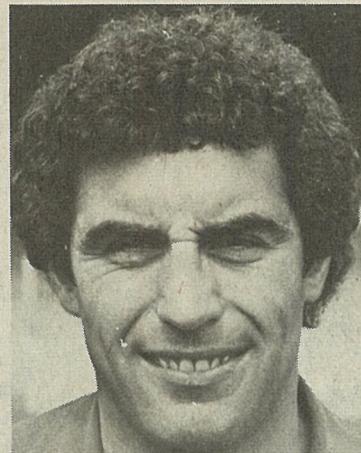
It seems incredible we haven't named a single Liverpool player yet, despite the fact they've led the First Division all the way. This may be because they're collectively so effective that individuals don't tend to stand out so much as they do in less successful sides.

Claims

So to put the record straight we can't really ignore the claims of GRAEME SOUNESS.

Since his expensive arrival from Middlesbrough, Souness has done exactly the job Bob Paisley bought him for. Alongside the fearsome shooting from deep positions of Jimmy Case, and the somehow always-available Ray Kennedy, Souness is the perfect foil, the man who makes the wheel go round. Whether Terry McDermott is in the side or not makes no difference, Souness can always be relied upon to provide the service that suits a particular game, and, of course, he gets his fair share of goals too.

In the middle we have to go for TONY CURRIE. The flaxen-haired Leeds star has re-established him-



Peter Shilton has had a big influence at Forest.



Terry Cochrane cost Middlesbrough £200,000 from Burnley.

What about Kenny Dalglish, such a great player, yet having a lean time at the moment?

Well in the end we started by going for an old-fashioned winger, who loves to get to the by-line and cut the ball back for his colleagues — TERRY COCHRANE, of Middlesbrough.

When John Neal decided to pay Burnley £200,000 for Cochrane he said he was getting the best winger in the business, and he's already being proved right.

Cochrane came into a side that was short on confidence and quite demoralised after losing at home to Queens Park Rangers.

Yet within weeks he had given Ayresome Park new hope along with another new signing, Micky Burns from Cardiff.

A highly-skilled player Cochrane can turn a defence inside out and he also scores the odd goal himself, not a bad combination.

To convert those crosses we've gone for the top scorer in the First Division FRANK WORTHINGTON, of Bolton — not just because he is leading the list, but because at the moment Worthington is at peak form, making and scoring goals, and showing all his wide range of skills.

Brilliant

In his days with Huddersfield and Leicester, big Frank had an irritating habit of being brilliant one week, awful the next.

A return to the First Division seems to have spurred him somehow, and without his goals Bolton would be in a sorry mess. His rich talents have often deserved better. We're not saying he's the best or most consistent centre-forward in the country, just that presently he wins his place in this team on merit.

To complete the side we simply had to choose West Brom's LAURIE CUNNINGHAM.

Last season the "Black Flash" couldn't even get in Albion's team after his move from Orient. Now he's the first name pencilled in, and his recent display against Valencia in Spain, when he upstaged Kempes and Bonhof, marked him down as a genuine star of the future.

Again Laurie has allied goal-scoring prowess to his already highly-developed talents, and this can be put down to his new-found confidence.

That only leaves the sub. and having extolled his virtues in this article we feel quite justified in giving the job to OSVALDO ARDILES.

It's only right to say that other strikers who came in for discussion, and could also be given the number 12 shirt include Phil Boyer, of Southampton and Ally Brown, of West Brom.

Finally to recap then the team in 4-3-3 formation is: Shilton; Anderson, O'Leary, Robertson, McDonald; Brady, Currie, Souness; Cochrane, Worthington, Cunningham. Sub. Ardiles.

Division's finest?

built an extremely formidable side. Wile has developed a tremendous understanding with Alistair Robertson.

But we really can't underestimate the tremendous strides made by Arsenal's DAVID O'LEARY.

Remarkably quick for such a tall lad, David has matured very quickly and has such composure he never seems ruffled. Undoubtedly he has benefitted from playing in front of Pat Jennings and alongside Irish defenders Pat Rice and Sammy Nelson.

He has developed into such a fine centre-back it's hard to see anyone shifting him from either the Arsenal or the Republic of Ireland side for years.

Alongside him we've plumped for West Brom's ALISTAIR ROBERTSON. Although he'd no doubt like to have Wile at his shoulder if this hypothetical side ever took the field, we feel Robertson is good enough in his own right to make most teams.

He was disappointed not to make Argentina with Scotland. He might have done better than some

self as an international player of quality with a vengeance.

He could well be the player around whom Ron Greenwood can build a World Cup side in 1982, and yet Currie still reckons he's not totally fit.

With that deceptive pace, colossal power, a touch of arrogance, and unwavering belief in himself, Currie has become the complete player at Leeds.

To complete a superb midfield we've gone for LIAM BRADY, who is so much more of a footballer than he was even 12 months ago, and who will be a tremendous loss to the British scene if he carries out his threat to go Continental at the end of his contract.

Brady has added goalscoring to his list of outstanding qualities as a double-figure tally already this season proves.

His ball control and strength in running at defences from all manner of places on the field mark him as one of the best midfield players Arsenal have ever possessed.

It was only after much thought and with great regret we left out little Osvaldo Ardiles.

In his first six months in English football Ardiles has fired the imagination of every Tottenham supporter, been instrumental in taking the club to a good position in the First Division, and, of course, brought colour to our game.

Of all the foreign imports, the Argentinian has unquestionably been the most successful. We congratulate him for the way he has tackled the job.

Other midfield players who came into consideration were Villa's Dennis Mortimer, such a great competitor; Everton's Andy King and Martin Dobson, equally skilled in vastly different ways; Eddie Gray, of Leeds playing his best football for years; Asa Hartford, playing exceptionally well for Manchester City; and Archie Gemmill, still the hub of Nottingham Forest.

Our attack was very difficult to select. The claims of sharpshooters like Cyrille Regis, Bob Latchford, Andy Gray and Paul Mariner had to be weighed against the current form of others who've been doing just as well in the League.

Next week we nominate our selections for the Second Division.

"Danny Blanchflower with some of the Chelsea players."

RAY
WILKINS
Writes for you

EXIT



'DANNY HAS RAISED CHELSEA'S SPIRITS'

ALTHOUGH Danny Blanchflower has been manager of Chelsea for almost two months, I've hardly seen him!

He was appointed soon after I damaged knee ligaments in Charlie Cooke's testimonial and while he has been in charge of coaching at our training ground, I've been reporting to Stamford Bridge for daily treatment.

Thankfully, the injury wasn't to a cartilage. As I fell, my knee stuck in the mud and I heard a crack when it twisted. I damaged the ligament attachment and while the cartilage was bruised, it wasn't torn.

As I write, I have my fingers crossed I may still be able to get a couple of games in before the European Championship-tie against Danny Blanchflower's Northern Ireland on February 7th — although he's told me, jokingly, he won't release me!

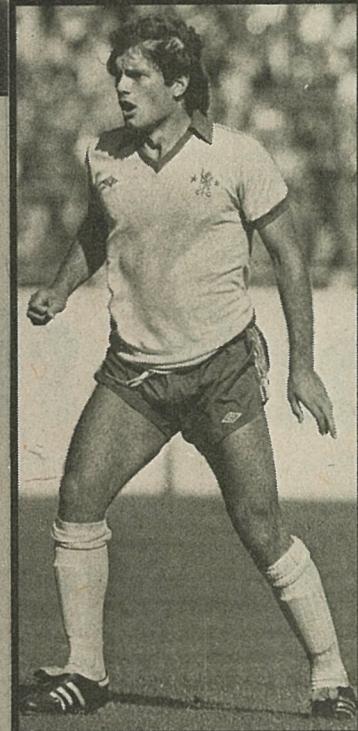
Danny has certainly raised the spirits of the Chelsea camp, and despite the worst possible start — a 2-7 thrashing at Middlesbrough (I didn't think they scored that many goals in training!) — he's still managed to smile.

I think we needed someone from outside to come in and gee us up. Having said that, I feel very sorry for Ken Shellito, whom I like as a coach and a person.

I saw his departure coming — the manager invariably goes when results are bad — but I was still somewhat shocked when he did actually resign.

In the long run, it's all down to the players; Ken picked the team that I'm sure the fans wanted, but it was because of the players things haven't gone well. In this respect, I — and I'm sure the other players, too — feel some responsibility.

I've seen Ken since and I'm happy



to say he's the Ken of old now, far more relaxed. He's glad he took the job in the first place and has no regrets. Many of the lads at Chelsea owe much to him for the way he helped us when he was the youth coach. In hindsight, it's possibly a shame he couldn't still hold that job he did so well. Maybe the fact we all knew him worked against him, but whatever he does in the future I wish him well.

I don't know exactly what sort of arrangement Danny has with the club — all we're concerned about is getting out of the relegation zone.

Danny is enjoying his day-to-day involvement with the players and his enthusiasm has spread to others.

He treats us like men and accepts criticism if we feel there is anything we can do to improve things.

I can't remember him as a player, although I'm aware of his reputation as the man who led Spurs to the Double almost 20 years ago. I hope to learn a lot about midfield play from him in the coming months.

I first met Danny a couple of years ago in the Dolphin Square sauna baths. Once a week we used to go there — just a couple of miles from Stamford Bridge — and he did an interview with me for the *Sunday Express*.

If I'm honest, I was a little in awe of him — I was only 19 or 20 and Danny had done it all!

Since then, I've been impressed with the way he has moulded the Northern Ireland side into one of the most effective units around. I've written that in SHOOT before.

With limited resources, Danny has chalked up some notable victories, especially the 2-0 win in Bulgaria which really puts the pressure on England in the European Championship group.

Danny is always cracking jokes and has instructed us that whoever is captain, he must stick out an arm to catch the coin when the referee tosses up! Saving up for a new player . . .

He hasn't set us a particular target, preferring to take each game as it comes. I think we'll be playing a 4-4-2 formation, trying to get as many men forward as possible when we attack.

Peter Osgood has settled down quickly, operating just behind the strikers. He's lost none of the fabul-



"Sammy McIlroy (below, left) is a dangerous midfielder."



ous touches that made him such a Chelsea hero previously.

I don't know if I'll be ready to be available for selection against the Irish, but it's a game England can't afford to lose — or even draw, with Ireland going so well themselves.

Ron Greenwood made several changes for the Czechoslovakia game, although at this stage it's difficult to say what his team for Ireland will be. He has opted for a 4-2-4 formation in the past, with two wingers, yet may decide to use 4-3-3. I don't know.

I'll be surprised if Trevor Brooking doesn't return — he was injured for the Czech game. But it's good the manager has so much competition in the squad, while there are

youngsters in the Under-21's waiting for promotion, just as Viv Anderson was.

We beat the Irish 1-0 in the British Championship last May, thanks to a Phil Neal goal, but should have won by more. We certainly created a lot of chances.

There are several Irish players who could cause us problems. I like the way Sammy McIlroy breaks quickly from midfield to get into good goalscoring positions, while Gerry Armstrong is a strong, old-fashioned type centre-forward who has been knocking in a few goals for his country.

If England are strong in goal, so are Ireland with Pat Jennings and the whole team has plenty of experience, vital for the big occasion.

Whatever the result, Group One still has a long way to go. Even a win for England won't make the players feel we're halfway to the Finals in Italy in 1980.

I remember how the Republic of Ireland almost beat us at Wembley not too long ago, while Bulgaria is never the easiest of places to get a good result.

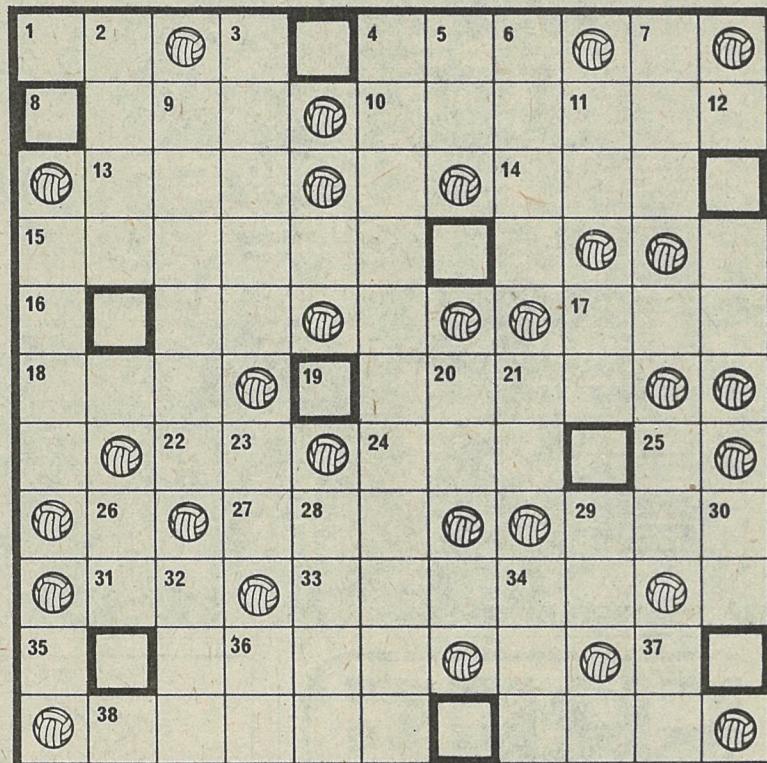
No, two points against Northern Ireland will be very welcome, but there will be no room for complacency. With all respect to my club manager, I hope I can help my country to defeat HIS country in a couple of weeks' time!

Join me again in a fortnight.

Raymond

Go for the Double

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a Leeds United midfielder. Answers on page 38.



SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO Ask the Expert

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Martin Buchan

When did my favourite player, Martin Buchan, make his debut in English football, and what was the score?

EILEEN O'SULLIVAN,
FOREST HILL

● Buchan joined Manchester United from Aberdeen for £125,000 on 2nd March, 1972, Eileen, and made his Football League debut at Tottenham two days later.

Unfortunately for him, though, Steve Perryman and Martin Chivers gave Spurs a 2-0 win.

First Final

My father says the first-ever F.A. Cup Final was played at Old Trafford; I say Anfield. Who's right?

MICHAEL FLYNN,
CO. CORK

● Sorry to say, Michael, NEITHER! Replays apart — in 1911 and 1970 — the only Final originally scheduled for Old Trafford was in 1915. And none have ever taken place at Anfield.

The very first Final of all — on 16th March, 1872 — was staged at Kennington Oval, the world-famous cricket ground in London.

And the result also looks a bit odd now — Wanderers 1, Royal Engineers 0.

Gregg at Chelsea

There's an elderly gentleman named Mr. Gregg who lives in our flats — and I believe he used to play for my favourite team, Chelsea. Can you tell me anything about him?

GERALD SCOTT,
HOUNSLOW

● Well, Gerald, if his Christian name is Robert — and he was born in Ferryhill, Co. Durham — then he could well be the inside-forward who joined Chelsea in September, 1933, and played for them for the next four years or so.

Before that, after starting with Ferryhill Athletic, his League clubs were Darlington, Sheffield Wednesday, and Birmingham.

Three v. Six

Can you tell me the teams in "The Three" v. "The Six" match at Wembley to commemorate the entry of Britain, Eire, and Denmark into the Common Market?

P. LOWN,
NEWCASTLE

● This was how they lined-up on the evening of 3rd January, 1973.

"THE THREE" — Jennings (Spurs), Storey (Arsenal), Hughes (Liverpool), Bell (Manchester City), Hunter (Ipswich),

Moore (West Ham), Lorimer (Leeds), Giles (Leeds), Stein (Coventry), Charlton (Manchester United), Jensen (Denmark). Subs used: Ball (Arsenal) and Olsen (Denmark).

"THE SIX" — Piot (Belgium), Tresor (France), Vogts (West Germany), Blanckenburg (West Germany), Beckenbauer (West Germany), Neeskens (Holland), Grabowski (West Germany), Van Hanegem (Holland), Muller (West Germany), Netzer (West Germany), Bereta (France). Subs used: Zoff (Italy), Suurbier (Holland), Krol (Holland), and Wimmer (West Germany).

"The Three" won 2-0 with goals from Stein and Jensen.

SHORT PASSES

● Crystal Palace have won the F.A. Youth Cup for the past two seasons; beating Everton 1-0 in the 1977 Final, and Villa 1-0 in 1978.

(PAUL KNIGHTS, New Zealand)

● Brian Clough has managed five clubs — Hartlepool, Derby, Brighton, Leeds and Forest.

(NIGEL TAYLOR, Leek)

● Blackpool's 125 goals-against in the 1930-31 season is the worst-ever in the First Division.

(NICHOLAS WADDINGTON, Leeds)

● Torquay were elected to the Football League in 1927, and have never played above Third Division status.

(CRAIG FOURIE, South Africa)

● Scarborough have never yet played in the Football League.

(PAUL WRIGHT, Huddersfield)

● Record F.A. Cup Final victory is Bury 6, Derby 0 (1903); followed by Blackburn Rovers 6, Sheffield Wednesday 1 (1890).

(ANDREW FOSTER, Nottingham)

● Southampton have played at The Dell since 1898 — 22 years before they were elected to the Football League.

(ANTONY HANKINS, Newbury)

● Geoff Hurst's three goals in England's 4-2 win over West Germany in 1966 is the only hat-trick in a World Cup Final.

(MARIA KUS, Bradford)

● In 1937-38 Manchester City were the First Division's top scorers with 80 goals — but still got relegated.

(DAVE WADDISON, Aldridge)

● Arsenal's record home gate is 73,295 (v. Sunderland; Div One; 9th March, 1935).

(MALCOLM McLARTY, Ayrshire)

Our Expert would like to point out that although all letters are read, he can only reply to published questions because of shortage of time.

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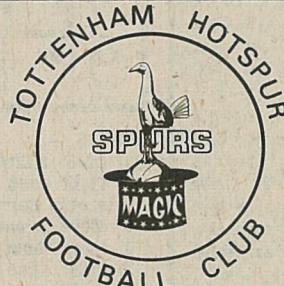
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'I haven't changed Manchester United's style of play'

says manager Dave Sexton

SINCE forsaking the lung-cleansing sea air of Hove for the heart of Cheshire, Dave Sexton has come to realise how awesome is the task of managing Manchester United.

Where else in the world would a team-boss look down from fifth position in the First Division and discover an element of his club's supporters complaining about the way his team performed?

It was muttered United lost some of their Tommy Docherty-inspired fire when the tactically-brilliant Sexton left Queens Park Rangers to take over at Old Trafford. But neither Sexton nor his players agree.

Sexton said: "I have not changed the team's style at all. My only change was to sell winger Gordon Hill and replace him with Micky Thomas."

And Scottish international Lou Macari hit back at the critics when he said: "I believe we are a better team thanks to Dave Sexton. We are better organised and more difficult to beat."

Honours

But that aspect apart, the quietly-spoken Sexton is loving every minute of his new challenge. Armed with the knowledge he managed Chelsea to victory in the F.A. Cup, European Cup-Winners' Cup and the Final of the League Cup, he recalls the time it took to build that team before they took the honours.

And remembering how he shook Q.P.R. by the throat and only missed the 1976 League Championship by one point, reached the U.E.F.A. Cup Quarter-Finals and League Cup Semi-Finals, Sexton is more than capable of withstanding the undoubted pressures his present job exerts.

"There is something very special about this club," he says. "You always want to get good results.

"Everyone at the club knows the problems. The supporters are used to success and they demand it. That is a good thing. And I am delighted by the way everyone at United accepts we need to be a little patient."

Eyebrows shot skywards when Sexton spent a total of £850,000 buying Scottish internationals Joe Jordan and Gordon McQueen from Leeds United. And only a failed medical stopped the £400,000 signing of goalkeeper Jim Blyth from Coventry. But it is the amazing form of the youngsters Sexton has introduced that has caused the most excitement.

He says: "I believe young players hold the key to the game in 1979. More so than before. The England Under-21 games have brought a lot of young lads early recognition.

"Stuart Pearson and Joe Jordan were both injured on international duty, yet when I played young Andy Ritchie at centre-forward, he did very well. The same thing hap-

pened with goalkeeper Gary Bailey. Alex Stepney is going to the United States and his position was a problem. But Gary has come in and played well.

"It is something of an added pressure for young players when they are asked to play in front of crowds as large and committed as ours. But once they overcome the situation, they mature more quickly. It does them good.

"In fact few people seem to realise how young a team we are. Lads such as Jimmy Nicholl, David McCreery, Micky Thomas, Arthur Albiston, Andy Ritchie, Gary Bailey, and Ashley Grimes are all in their early 20's or younger.

"Then we have even younger lads like Tommy Sloane and Tommy Connell, both from Ire-

land."

Sexton, his wife Thea and their family live 30 minutes' drive from Old Trafford, out in the country. He said: "We settled down immediately. I find it much better because my travelling-time per day is about one hour. When I worked in London and lived in Sussex I spent at least four hours a day just commuting."

Returning to the job in hand, Sexton added: "We were doing nicely before that poor Christmas where we lost at home to two superb teams — Liverpool and West Bromwich Albion.

"So our realistic aim now is to reach the F.A. Cup Final and qualify for a place in Europe. We have the players and the support to succeed."

Micky Thomas cost Manchester United £300,000 from Wrexham.



**F.A. CUP 6th ROUND
SCOTTISH CUP 5th ROUND**

**F.A. CUP SEMI-FINALS
SCOTTISH CUP SEMI-FINALS**

Referee	Linesmen
TEAMS	
Score at half-time	
Score at full-time	
Score after extra-time (if played)	
Goalscorers	
REPLAY (if played)	
Score at half-time	
Score at full-time	
Score after extra-time (if played)	
Goalscorers	

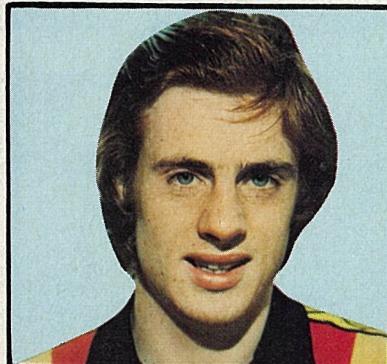
SCOTTISH CUP FINALS

1947 Aberdeen v. Hibernian.....2-1	1962 Rangers v. St. Mirren.....2-0
1948 Rangers v. Morton....(1-1) 1-0	1963 Rangers v. Celtic.....(1-1) 3-0
1949 Rangers v. Clyde.....4-1	1964 Rangers v. Dundee.....3-1
1950 Rangers v. East Fife.....3-0	1965 Celtic v. Dunfermline.....3-2
1951 Celtic v. Motherwell.....1-0	1966 Rangers v. Celtic.....(0-0) 1-0
1952 Motherwell v. Dundee....4-0	1967 Celtic v. Aberdeen.....2-0
1953 Rangers v. Aberdeen....(1-1)	1968 Dunfermline v. Hearts.....3-1
1954 Celtic v. Aberdeen.....2-1	1969 Celtic v. Rangers.....4-0
1955 Clyde v. Celtic.....(1-1) 1-0	1970 Aberdeen v. Celtic.....3-1
1956 Hearts v. Celtic.....3-1	1971 Celtic v. Rangers.....(1-1) 2-1
1957 Falkirk v. Kilmarnock....(1-1)	1972 Celtic v. Hibernian.....6-1
1958 Clyde v. Hibernian.....1-0	1973 Rangers v. Celtic.....3-2
1959 St. Mirren v. Aberdeen.....3-1	1974 Celtic v. Dundee Utd.....3-0
1960 Rangers v. Kilmarnock....2-0	1975 Celtic v. Airdrie.....3-1
1961 Dunfermline v. Celtic.....(0-0) 2-0	1976 Rangers v. Hearts.....3-1

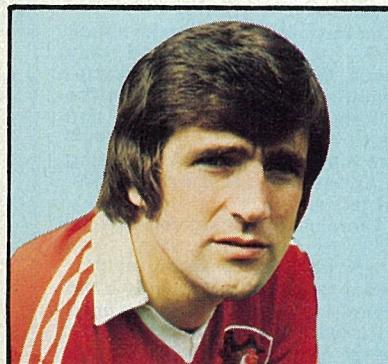
(Scores in brackets first game)



Celtic's Tom McAdam
Watson of Rangers in
clash.



Jim Melrose (Partick Thistle)

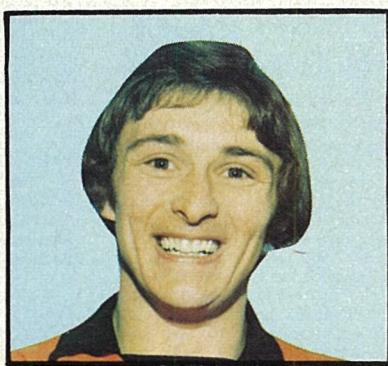


Norman Hunter (Bristol City)

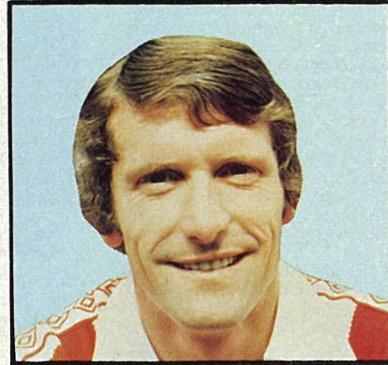




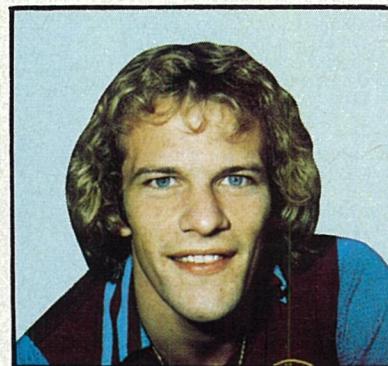
beats Kenny
a heading



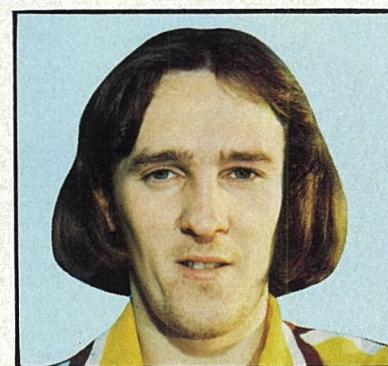
Paul Hegarty (Dundee Utd)



Mike Doyle (Stoke City)



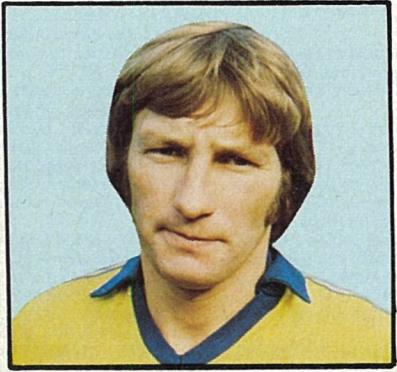
Andy Gray (Aston Villa)



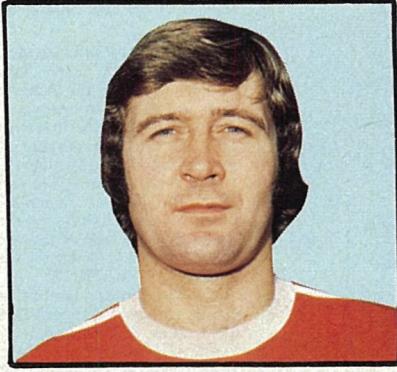
Willie Pettigrew (Motherwell)



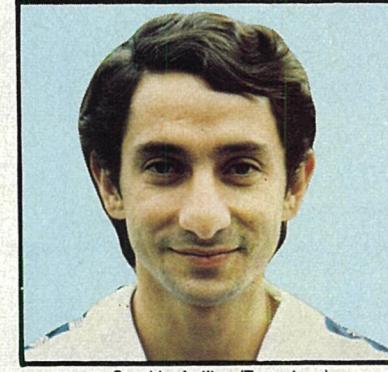
Bob Lee (Sunderland)



Colin Todd (Everton)



Dixie McNeil (Wrexham)



Osvaldo Ardiles (Tottenham)

'WE NOW PLAY ON GRASS'

Tunisia boss

TUNISIA's success in the World Cup was a start not an end in their progress towards recognition as a major soccer power.

That is the verdict of their national team manager Chetali (below).

"It was just a starting point," he emphasises. "We proved to ourselves that our style of football can hold its own at the highest level, and it has given the Tunisian people a massive injection of confidence to aim for greater things in the future."

At 39, Abdelmajid Chetali was the youngest manager in Argentina, having won no fewer than 68 caps during his playing career. He gambled on young players like Jebali, and the inexperienced goalkeeper, Naili, who replaced 167-cap veteran Attouga, who was something of a national hero. And the gambles came off.

"The future of our game," insists Chetali, "lies with these young players. Last year there were 15,000 players registered in our country and, thanks to our performance in Argentina, this figure is increasing by leaps and bounds."

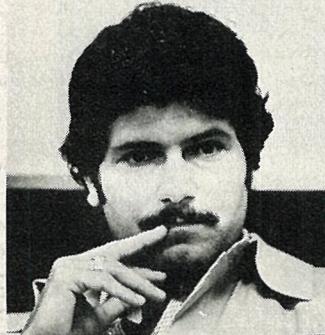
"And this inflow of 'new blood' is the transfusion Tunisian football needs to continue its development. I must emphasise again the World Cup was only a starting point, because it made the world sit up and take us seriously."

"Up till then we had serious problems which affected our development as a footballing nation. As you know, most international matches are arranged on a reciprocal basis, with the home team retaining the profits in each case, so little cash actually changes hands."

"But other countries felt Tunisia wouldn't attract enough spectators to make such an arrangement financially attractive."

"So we had to pay large sums of money to get other countries to come and play us. Now, people take us seriously and we've become 'somebody' on the international scene."

"As a result we've got a good programme of international matches in which our young players can gain experience against top-level opposition. And when that happens, you'll see, Tunisian football will really take off."



AJAX STARS



The Rio de Janeiro Championship will be increased to 18 clubs this year. Newcomers are: Associação Desportiva Niterói, Serrano, Friburgo, Volta Redonda, Americano and Goyatacaz.

★ ★ ★

Vasco da Gama have authorised the sale to clubs abroad of centre-forward Roberto £500,000 and attacking left-back Marco Antonio £150,000. America of Mexico is said to be interested in buying Roberto.

★ ★ ★

Brazil's full-back Nelinho is to have a spinal operation. The injury, which has been troubling him since early in the year, no longer responds to treatment, and so requires surgery.

YUGOSLAV journalists, after the European Championship defeats against Spain and Rumania, are urging the F.A. to stage a game between the national team and the journalists' choice. The F.A. will not do it, because the last time they did, the journalists' team left everyone with a lot of red faces by winning 4-2!

Strange goal

AN unusual incident towards the end of the Belgian amateur game between Delle and Haasrode in the province of Brabant. Delle were winning 3-2 with two minutes to go, when a Haasrode striker rounded Delle's goalkeeper and shot towards the open goal.

Suddenly, a Delle official ran on to the pitch and "saved" the goal. Play should have been started with a drop-ball (as You Are The Ref readers will know) but this referee awarded a goal and the game ended 3-3!

THE PAIN IN SPAIN...

THE wave of crowd violence continues in Spain, where play had to be stopped for ten minutes during the Huelva-Athletic Bilbao game following a near-riot in which a linesman was hit on the head by a bottle thrown from the stand.

The riot was sparked off when a long cross went out of play, but the wind blew it back into the goalmouth and Bilbao's Sarabia headed home.

Still in Andalucia, the Málaga-Almeria Second Division game was also abandoned after fans broke down part of the protective fencing and threatened the referee, who had earlier sent-off two players from the home team. Both the referee and a linesman were hit by missiles, and eventually the match had to be abandoned while they received medical treatment.

And just up-country in Cáceres, another Second Division match had to be abandoned when fans broke down barriers, invaded the pitch and beat up the referee and members of the visiting team, Levante, who were winning 1-0 at the time.

WORLD WIDE

COMPILED BY CHRIS DAVIES

EURO SHOCK? Greece is the word

A UNFAMILIAR name could be in the Finals of the 1980 European Championship — Greece. When the draw was made, and they were paired with the U.S.S.R. and Hungary, few gave the Greeks a chance, understandably so. Yet now, with Group 7 at its halfway stage, Greece lead the way and are poised to cause a sensation.

This may surprise you, remembering how Nottingham Forest humiliated their Champions, AEK Athens (pictured below). I asked our correspondent in Greece, Steve Stavridis, for the reasons behind his country's rise . . .

He writes: 'With our ancient monuments and 300 sunny days each year, people don't think of Greece as a soccer-mad place, but the game is very much in our blood. We've had a few successes at club level, notably Panathinaikos in 1971, but the national team has disappointed too often.'

Why? First and foremost, there has been a lack of interest by the Football Association and the players, who have been quite content to turn out for the clubs only.

Lack of preparation — just one training session before each international is hardly sufficient. We haven't had a settled side and no manager has blended youth and experience. We've either had 11 youngsters or 11 veterans!

Greece have been notorious bad starters in competition. In this European Championship, they lost 0-3 to the amateurs of Finland in Helsinki and followed this up with a 0-2 defeat in Russia.

When they started to play a bit, they thrashed the Finns 8-1 in Athens and Hungary 4-1 on a mudheap in Salonika. Now everyone here is hoping our team can produce its "uncanny magic" in the remaining games against Hungary and Russia to earn three points and qualify for the Finals in Italy.

Against Forest, AEK were awful, every player was sluggish and nothing they tried came off. The tie was over after the first-leg in Athens.

Yet the national team has done much better and . . . who knows?

We may be there in 1980. Only time will tell.'



STILL SHINE

AJAX may not quite be the magical name in Europe they were in the early Seventies, but many of the players who put the Amsterdammers on the soccer map are still going strong.

Most of the side that won the European Cup in 1971/2 are now playing abroad and five of them played for Holland in the 1978 World Cup.

Just take a look at the fortunes of the Ajax stars. HEINZ STUY . . . a much-criticised goalie, but he holds the world shut-out record. Perhaps he wasn't up to the standard of the outfield players, but being Ajax's goalkeeper wasn't that difficult. Retired.

BARRY HULSHOFF . . . a tremendous stopper, but a knee injury just before the 1974 World Cup Finals cut short a career that would almost certainly have taken him abroad.

WIM SUURBIER . . . Left Ajax for Schalke 04 in West Germany, but never settled and is now with FC Metz in France.

HORST BLANKENBURG . . . Returned to his native West Germany and then went to France and

Switzerland. Played in the United States last summer.

RUUD KROL . . . The only member of the great Ajax team still in Amsterdam, but Terry Neill would love to change this and bring him to Arsenal.

JOHAN CRUYFF . . . Spent five years with Barcelona, making a million, and it's odds-on he'll make another million (or two) by signing for the Cosmos.

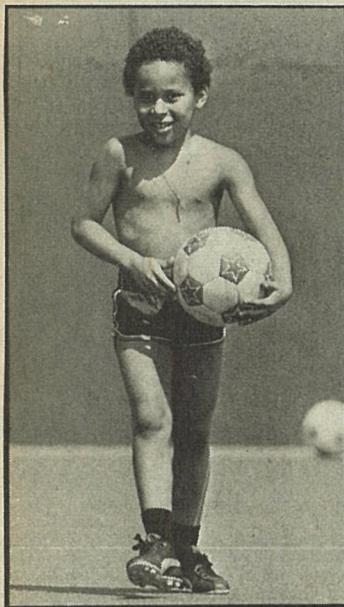
ARIE HAAN . . . Has an incredible record of European Finals. After helping Ajax to so much success, he's doing the same with Anderlecht now, who have had something of a monopoly of the Cup-Winners' Cup in recent years.

SJAAK SWART . . . The "Bobby Charlton of Holland" retired and his place on the right-wing was taken by Johnny Rep. Johnny left Ajax for Valencia and is now with Bastia in the French League.

JOHAN NEESKENS . . . Amazing to believe he's only just 27. Signed for Barcelona shortly after Cruyff, and is still in Spain.

GERRIE MÜHREN . . . A left-sided midfielder with Ajax, but now plays sweeper for Betis of Seville in Spain.

PETE KEIZER . . . Retired to become a soccer agent.



THE lad's name is Edson. His father is called Edson Arantes do Nascimento, but he's better known as Pelé. Young Edson is seen here at the Cosmos's Giants Stadium, where his famous dad helped to put U.S. soccer on the map. But will Edson be a star of the 1990's? He couldn't have a better tutor!

IS ARGENTINA'S GOAL BUSINESS HEADING FOR BANKRUPTCY?

"ARGENTINA export 300 goals a year," is one of César Luis Menotti's favourite stock phrases. And, even if the former Argentina manager may be exaggerating the exact figure, the basis of his argument is true. Scota, Morete, Bertoni, Kempes, Ayala, Felman, Trossero . . . all the big goalscorers have been snapped up by European clubs as soon as their names have hit the Argentinian goal-charts.

Despite all this, youngsters have been emerging every year to fill their places. But even Menotti must be a little worried that in the past year Argentina simply hasn't had 300 goals to export.

The Metropolitan Championship has finished, and a glance at the final scoring chart suggests all the exports may at last be causing the supply of goalscorers to dry up.

Andreuchi and Maradona (below) top the chart with the unspectacular figure of 21 goals in a 40-match League programme, and it's worth bearing in mind their totals include nine and ten penalties respectively.

What's more, 18-year-old Diego Maradona may be the most promising youngster in Argentinian soccer, but he's a midfield player and can't, under any stretch of the imagination, be called an out-and-out striker.

Third-placed Norberto Outes is probably the most complete striker at the moment and his 20 goals for Independiente have proved that he can score goals even without the support on the wings from World Cup star Bertoni, who's now in Spain.

Apart from these three, there are no outstanding names at all, though some Argentinians will patriotically assert the five-month absence of the World Cup players from League action explains the poor figures.

A closer look reveals that of the World Cup line-up, only River Plate striker Luque, who didn't reach double figures in the League this season, and winger Ortiz, who scores few goals at the best of times, remain in the country along with Huracan winger René Houseman, who seems to be burnt out after being thrown into top-flight international soccer at the tender age of 17.

Antonio Rattin recently said: "Absences of exported players aren't noticed so much because we keep producing great players. When Argentina stops producing great players, that'll be the time to start worrying."

Maybe now is the time to start worrying, before Argentinian football finds that suddenly it's too late.



FINAL SCORING CHART — Metropolitan Championship

1 Andreatchi (Quilmes)	21
2 Maradona (Argentinos Juniors)	21
3 Outes (Independiente)	20
4 Avallay (Racing — now retiring from football)	17
5 Atundo (Atlanta)	16
6 Fortunato (Estudiantes La Plata)	16
7 Alonso (River Plate)	15
8 Barú (Racing)	15
9 Gottardi (Estudiantes La Plata)	15

WEST GERMAN international Hansi Müller of VfB Stuttgart was sent-off in Bochum for kicking an opponent and was suspended for eight weeks. Müller was the third Bundesliga player to be shown the red card this season.

14 MANAGERS FOR RUSSIA

SINCE 1952, when the Soviet Union began to play international football after the Stalinist period, they have only been beaten 11 times at home, but have been singularly unsuccessful in the big competitions.

This is underlined by the fact they have had no fewer than 14 team managers in 25 years. Gavril Katchalin has been the most successful, running the team for 76 of the 236 official games played.

Their record: played 236, won 129, drawn 58, lost 49.

Mikhail Jakusin was in charge for 28 matches, but lost 0-5 to England at Wembley, while the Dynamo Kiev experiment with their manager Valerij Lobanovskij in charge listed only 17 matches and achieved nothing.

The best-known players to have had a run are Konstantin Beskov, a fine inside-forward had 12 games as boss, and Nikita Simonian, the former Spartak Moscow centre-forward, who is now in charge has seen service for 20 games.

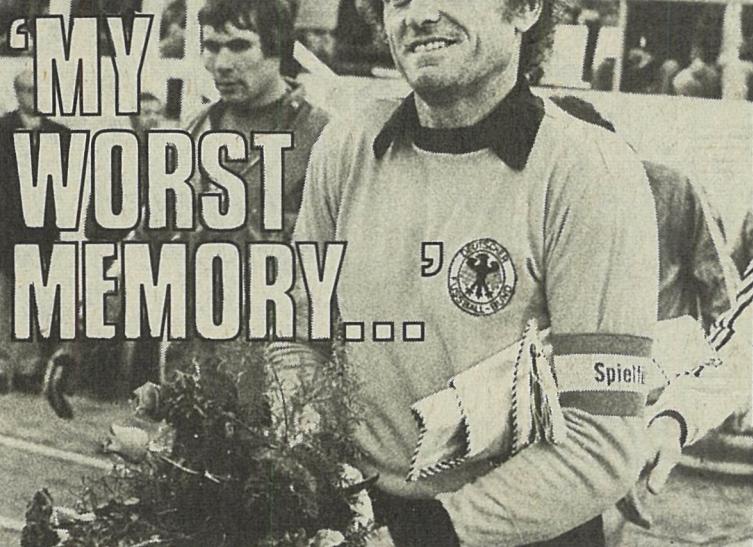
The most-capped player in this period was Albert Schesternev, the centre-back of the Moscow Army team CSKA. 245 different players have played for Russia in those 236 games with Dynamo Kiev providing the most, earning between them 618 caps, and their players have scored 112 international goals.

REMEMBER Argentina's two top stars of the 1974 World Cup in West Germany: Carlos Babington and René Houseman? They're back together again with Huracan and they were also sent-off together against Union recently for hitting opponents! The old double-act "strikes" again . . .

When real Madrid met Grasshoppers Zurich recently in the European Cup each player was presented by the Swiss club with an expensive cassette recorder. Presumably because Real lost, customs men at the airport set on the players on their return and demanded a levy of £60 each for them.

GERMAN F.A. chairman Wilhelm Neudecker has announced that doping controls will be introduced in the Bundesliga for 1979-80.

Interview with
SEPP MAIER,
Bayern Munich's international
goalkeeper.



SHOOT: How does it feel to be the last of the old guard and the new captain of West Germany?

MAIER: I was very happy to be chosen as skipper, of course. But the goalkeeper rarely makes an ideal captain because he is too far from the play.

SHOOT: At 34, how much longer do you expect to go on playing for West Germany and Bayern?

MAIER: I would like to play for Germany until after the 1980 European Championship is over. After that I will go on playing for Bayern for as long as I am enjoying it and as long as they want me.

SHOOT: Are Bayern playing well again after losing Beckenbauer and other players? Do you think you can get back into the European Cup?

MAIER: Bayern are playing really good football with our new team. But to win the Championship is very difficult. Still, I hope we can be in the U.E.F.A. Cup next season. We have no chance of success in the Cup-Winners' Cup, for we are already out of the German Cup.

SHOOT: What do you think of the new German national side in 1978-79? Will you soon be the "Kings" again?

MAIER: The German team is a good mixture of youth and experience. It is a strong team with plenty of enthusiasm and I think we will develop into one of the strongest in Europe again very quickly.

SHOOT: Who are the best new players for Bayern and Germany?

MAIER: For Bayern, Paul Breitner is playing really well, but the best young talent is Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, our right-winger. For Germany, Rummenigge will become a big star but players like Bonhof, Kaltz and Fischer are all vital members of the side.

SHOOT: You have won every honour in the game except the U.E.F.A. Cup. What are your ambitions now?

MAIER: Only to enjoy playing and to be as successful as possible for both Bayern and Germany. And for real pleasure, because I am a great tennis amateur, to play Björn Borg in the Wimbledon Final! An impossible dream, that one.

SHOOT: What are your plans for when you finally retire?

MAIER: With the money I have made from football I have built an all year round tennis centre. That already takes a lot of my time running it and I plan to develop this still further when I retire. I am not sure if I would like to stay in football after my active career is over, but I will decide later.

SHOOT: What are the most cherished memories from your career so far?

MAIER: All my European Cup Finals with Bayern and, of course, the 1974 World Cup when we won the trophy. But a big place in my memory goes to our 3-1 win over England at Wembley in April, 1972, with what I think was the best side Germany ever had. That team, that game, and a few months later, winning the 1972 European Championship.

SHOOT: What is your worst memory of your long career?

MAIER: No doubt about that. Losing 2-3 to Austria in the last World Cup.

SHOOT: Is it a problem for the German team that you have so many foreign players in the Bundesliga?

MAIER: In some countries, Italy for example a few years ago, there were too many, but in Germany, two imported players per club is just right. The imported stars add "wings" to our football and provide greater interest for the fans. Top players bring extra class and skill to our game.

SHOOT: How is Kevin Keegan doing for Hamburger SV?

MAIER: Kevin is, of course, a world class star. He is so important to the HSV team. When Keegan plays well HSV play well, but if he has an off day they are quite ordinary.

SHOOT: Now the big one. What went wrong with West Germany in Argentina?

MAIER: We found the people and the country very good. Everyone wanted to do well, but somehow it all went wrong and created a little crisis. No one knows exactly what happened with the team and with the players because we should have played much better than we did.

my soccer scene
GORDON HILL



Jonathan Clark will be a valuable asset when he gains experience.



Former Derby star Charlie George — now a Super Saint.

'I'M ON THE closer to Derby'

SINCE Christmas I must have received two or three dozen letters pleading with me to stay at Derby County.

They refer to reports that I am leaving the Baseball Ground for one of the big London clubs.

It's certainly true I haven't exactly been on top of the world over the past nine months or so.

When I signed for Derby at the end of last season I was full of hope and confidence for the future.

There was a tremendous squad of players at the Baseball Ground . . . the whole place buzzed. The atmosphere was charged with excitement. Everyone from chairman George Hardy to the tea ladies were convinced the club would achieve some success this term.

Well, this season hasn't been a disaster, but Derby have yet to make headlines for the right reasons.

Injuries to so many key players hasn't helped the situation and the team hasn't maintained any real pat-

tern or rhythm.

I missed the best part of the first half of the campaign with my knee injury. It still gives me some pain, but a specialist has assured me time will heal the ligaments and I'll be as good as new.

The one man the team has missed above all others is skipper Roy McFarland. Few sides can afford to lose a defender of his calibre without it showing.

Roy holds the team together and gives great confidence to his defence.

There was talk of Roy joining the talent drain from the Baseball Ground. Let's hope that doesn't happen.

I was disappointed when Tommy Docherty sold Colin Todd (to Everton), Gerry Ryan (to Brighton) and Charlie George (to Southampton). That's the nucleus of a fine side. All top class players with a wealth of experience.

As far as I know none of them were particularly unsettled at Der-

by, it was simply a case of the right clubs making the right bids at the right time.

You can't blame The Doc for selling, when you realise he's trying to build a new Derby County team capable of challenging for honours right through the 1980's. To do that he needs money — and a lot of it.

Unfortunately, crowds of around 25,000 don't bring in enough cash to allow a manager to spend vast fortunes in the transfer market.

The boss has spent some of the cash received for Toddie and Co., on players such as Billy Caskey, Vic Moreland, Barney Bowers and David McKeller, from Ireland . . . Steve Carter, from Notts County . . . big John Duncan, from Spurs and young Jonathan Clark, from my old club Manchester United.

With the exception of Stevie and John, the others are relatively inexperienced. Once they've settled down I'm sure they'll prove valuable assets to The Rams. I will, too, when I regain my true form.

Before Christmas I did think that a move might be in my best interests and Derby County's, but I certainly didn't put in a transfer request, or make my feelings public.

At the time I was feeling very low. I was worried about my knee and future in the game. When I returned to the first team I struggled to find form.

Travelling backwards and forwards from my home in Cheshire to Derby every day got me down.

My wife, Jackie, suffered because I couldn't help but take my problems home. It was she who finally persuaded me to move from Bolton to a house nearer the club.

Even then snags cropped up . . . we bought a place and then were forced to drop out when the owners

in the F.A. Cup.

Unfortunately, because of circumstances beyond my control, I had to write this week's column before the result of Derby's Third Round F.A. Cup-tie against Preston, at Deepdale, was known.

I must assume The Rams beat our Second Division opponents and are now ready and able to face Southampton in the Fourth Round at the Baseball Ground this Saturday (January 27th).

Saints new signing Charlie George will get a warm reception from his old fans at the Baseball.

Charlie, worth every penny of the £400,000 Southampton paid for him recently, scored one of the Derby goals that beat his new club in the League at the Baseball back in September.

With Charlie in the side — a real matchwinner on any occasion — this tie promises to be a tough tussle for Derby, although I'm confident we'll do enough to go into the hat for the Fifth Round draw.

Before I close this week I'd like to mention a visit I made with Peter Barnes to the Booth Hall Children's Hospital in Manchester just before Christmas.

We handed out teddy bears and footballs paid for out of £3,000 raised by a lad named Andrew Harper.

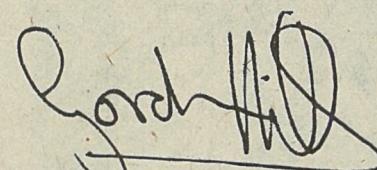
He collects cash every year for the children and then arranges for several top footballers to distribute them.

This Christmas over 1,000 children received similar visits from players such as Leighton James, Tony Woodcock, Peter Shilton, Dave Thomas, George Wood, Bob Latchford, Martin Dobson, Trevor Francis, Don Givens, Howard Kendall, Joe Jordan, Gordon McQueen and Kenny Dalglish.

I promised some of the kids at Booth Hall that I'd give them a mention and publish a photo in one of my columns . . . so here it is.

Peter Barnes, whom I rival for the England number 11 spot, and I had a most enjoyable afternoon at Booth Hall. The smiles on the children's faces were the best Christmas present I received.

Cheers for now . . .



Peter Barnes and our Gordon with some of the children at Booth Hall.



decided not to move after all.

Then a house Jackie and I liked on the outskirts of Derby became available. Gradually the sky became clearer. When we finally move in I'm sure I'll feel more settled both on and off the field.

Mind you, I'm not saying I'll be at Derby County for the rest of my career. I've never made it a secret that one day I hope to return to my native London and maybe, one of the capital's top clubs.

For the immediate future, though, all I'm concerned with is helping Derby regain their First Division status and have a good run

GOAL-LINES

Send your letters to STEVE CARTER, GOAL-LINES, SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford St., London SE1 9LS. £3 for the Star letter — £1.50 for every other letter published. When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from E. Mills of Crofton Park, London, who wins our Special Prize of £3. He writes:

LIONS NOT PANICKED

As a Millwall supporter, I am delighted George Petchey has signed a contract with the club and that our directors have not panicked like other boards of clubs who are in trouble.

To sack the manager is the easy way out, but Mr. Petchey is slowly but surely building up a good side at The Den. Even if we're relegated, I feel there are better times ahead for Millwall.

Mr. Petchey will deserve this as a reward for his loyalty.

● George turned down an offer to manage Q.P.R. earlier this season to be loyal to Millwall who gave him a job when he was out of work. I, too, hope he succeeds.

Brother saw red

RECENTLY found my brother had inked in the slow rise of his team, Everton, in your League Ladder. Though not a Liverpool fan myself, I couldn't resist drawing a straight red line along the top of the chart!

He wasn't amused . . .

KENNETH KNOTT,
TAUNTON.

● I think West Brom will have a big say in what happens to the two Merseyside giants this season.



Duncan does it again!

READ the interview with Duncan McKenzie in the December issue of SOCCER MONTHLY, with regards to his "amazing ability" to arrive at a club shortly before the manager leaves.

He said: "I cannot resist checking each day that Ken Shilton is still here, not that there is any chance of him NOT being here! But I'm so used to being bought by a man and then sold by another. It's a worrying pattern."

DARA O'KEARNEY,
CO. WEXFORD.

● The McKenzie (below, left) "jinx" struck again — Shilton was replaced by Danny Blanchflower just before Christmas. Yet I can't see him leaving Chelsea just yet — although with Duncan you never know . . .

"Clean" Clem

WHEN your columnist Ray Clemence prevented Manchester United from scoring on Boxing Day, it was his 250th clean sheet for Liverpool, a record for one club by a British goalkeeper.

Of these, 144 were at Anfield, and 106 in away games. Details: League 177 (367 games) Europe 34 (69 games) F.A. Cup 23 (37 games) League Cup 16 (39 games) JOHN KELLY, WALLASEY.

● If you take into account England and friendlies, Ray's total is nearer 300 — an incredible record — and I'm sure Clem would be the first to give full credit to the other Liverpool lads for making life easy for him at times!



Polite Lou

A SHOOT reader recently told of how Lou Macari (above) was rude to him, refusing to sign an autograph. I've met Lou at Old Trafford and he couldn't have been more helpful . . . maybe Lou was having an off-day when your reader met him. We all have them, you know.

RAYMOND BRIDGE,
WALTHAM.

● Happy to put the record straight.

Pen-Pal

I'M a 14 year-old Swedish boy and I'd like to write to a boy of the same age in Birmingham who supports Aston Villa.

RONNIE PETTERSSON,
BOX 48,
380 74 LOTTORP,
SWEDEN.

RESULTS . . . SCORERS . . . TEAM LINE-UPS

TUESDAY,
BOXING DAY, DEC. 26

FIRST DIVISION

ARSENAL (0) 1 (Brady pen.)
W.B.A. (2) 2 (Robson, Brown A.) 40,055

Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Walford, Price, O'Leary, Young, Brady, Sunderland, Stapleton, Gatting, Rix.

W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Brown (T), Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Cantello, Cunningham.

ASTON VILLA (2) 2 (Gregory 2)
LEEDS (0) 2 (Gray E. 2) 40,973

Villa: Rimmer, Gidman, Williams, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Craig, Swain, Deehan, Cowans, Gregory.

Leeds: Harvey; Cherry, Gray (F), Flynn, Hart, Madeley, Gray (E), Harris, Hawley, Currie, Graham.

BRISTOL C (2) 5 (Royle 3, Ritchie, Cormack)
COVENTRY (0) 0 22,324

Bristol C: Shaw, Sweeney, Gillies, Gow, Rodgers, Hunter, Tainton, Ritchie, Royle, Cormack, Mann.

Coventry: Sealey; Coop, McDonald, Blair, Holton, Osgood, Hunt, Wallace, Thompson, Powell, Hutchison.

EVERTON (0) 1 (Wright)
MAN. CITY (0) 0 46,997

Everton: Wood; Todd, Jones (Robinson), Lyons, Wright, Nulty, King, Dobson, Latchford, Higgins, Telfer.

Man. C: Corrigan, Ranson, Donachie, Power, Watson, Fletcher (P), Channon, Owen, Fletcher (R), Hartford (Palmer), Barnes.

IPSWICH (0) 1 (Mills)
NORWICH (1) 1 (Davies) 26,336

Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Mills, Talbot, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhran, Mariner, Gates, Woods.

Norwich: Keelan; Bond, Davies, Ryan, Hooley, Powell, McGuire, Reeves, Chivers (Neighbour), Robson, Symonds.

MAN. UTD (0) 0
LIVERPOOL (2) 3 (Kennedy R., Case, Fairclough) 54,940

Man Utd: Bailey; Greenhoff (B), Connell, McIlroy, McQueen, Buchan, Coppell, Greenhoff (J), Ritchie, Macari, Thomas.

Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Hughes, Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Case, Fairclough, McDermott, Souness.

MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 1 (Cummins)
BOLTON (1) 1 (Worthington) 20,125

Middlesbrough: Stewart; Craggs, McAndrew, Mahoney, Boam, Ramage, Cochrane, Proctor, Burns, Cummins, Armstrong.

Bolton: McDonagh; Nicholson, Dunne, Greaves, Jones (P), Walsh, Morgan, Reid, Gowling, Worthington, McNab.

NOTTM FORST (0) 1 (Woodcock)
DERBY (1) 1 (Daly pen.) 34,256

Nottingham: Shilton; Anderson, Clark, McGovern, Lloyd, Needham, O'Neill, Gemmill, Birtles, Woodcock, Robertson.

Derby: McKellar, Langan, Buckley, Daly, McFarland, Webb, Carter (Moreland), Powell, Caskey, Clark, Hill.

Q.P.R. (1) 2 (Bowles pen., Shanks)
TOTTENHAM (1) 2 (Lee, Taylor pen.) 24,845

Q.P.R.: Parkes; Clement, Gillard, Roeder, Howe, Hollins, Shanks, Eastoe, Hamilton, Bowles, Harkouk (McGee).

Tottenham: Kendall; Naylor, Gorman, Villa, Lacy, Perryman, Pratt, Ardiles, Lee, Jones, Taylor.

SOUTHAMPTON 0
CHELSEA 0 20,770

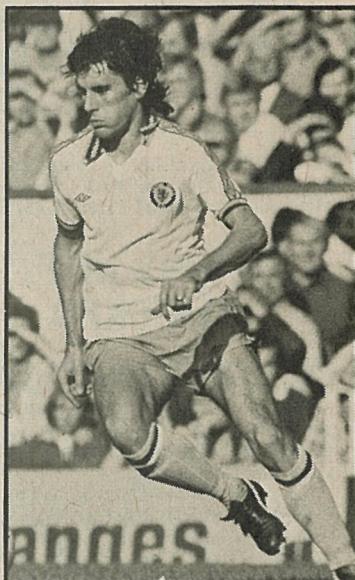
Southampton: Gennoe; Golac, Peach, Williams, Nicholl, Waldron, Ball, Boyer, Hebdon, Holmes, Curran.

Chelsea: Phillips; Harris, Stride, Nutton, Wicks, Lewington, Stanley, McKenzie, Osgood, Langley, Britton.

WOLVES (1) 2 (Hibbitt, Daniel pen.)
BIRMINGHAM (0) 1 (Buckley) 26,315

Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, McAlle, Berry, Hibbitt, Daley, Bell, Eyes, Carr.

Birmingham: Montgomery, Tarantini, Dennis, Towers, Gallagher, Page, Riach, Francis, Givens (Buckley), Dillon, Barrowclough.



John Gregory scored both goals to give Aston Villa a 2-2 draw v. Leeds.

SECOND DIVISION

BRIGHTON (3) 5 (Williams, Maybank 3, Horton pen.)

CARDIFF (0) 0 20,172

Brighton: Moseley; Cattlin, Williams, Horton, Rollings, Lawrence (Clark), Ryan, Poskett, Maybank, Sayer, O'Sullivan.

Cardiff: Healey; Thomas, Pethard, Campbell, Roberts, Larmour, Attley, Stevens (Bishop), Evans, Dwyer, Lewis.

BURNLEY (2) 2 (Fletcher, Noble)

BLACKBURN (0) 1 (Hird) 23,090

Burnley: Stevenson; Scott, Brennan, Noble, Thomson, Rodaway, Hall, Ingham, Fletcher, Kindon, James (Morley).

Blackburn: Butcher; Hird, Bailey, Metcalfe (Fowler), Keeley, Fazackerley, Brotherton, Radford, Craig, Round, Birchenall.

C. PALACE (0) 0

BRISTOL R (0) 1 (White) 21,605

Palace: Burridge; Fenwick, Sansom, Kember (Hilaire), Cannon, Gilbert, Nicholas, Murphy, Swindiehurst, Smillie, Walsh.

Bristol R: Thomas; Jones, Harding, Day, Taylor, Emmanuel, White (Hendrie), Williams, Randall, Staniforth, Mabbott.

FULHAM (2) 5 (Davies, Margesson, Guthrie 3)

CAMBRIDGE (0) 1 (Biley pen.) 7,814

Fulham: Peyton; Evans, Strong, Lock, Money, Margesson, Davies, Bullivant, Guthrie, Beck (Evanson), Marinello.

Cambridge: Webster; Graham, Smith, Stringer, Fallon, Buckley, Christie, Spriggs, Cozens, Finney (Garner), Biley.

MILLWALL (0) 0

LUTON (2) 2 (Moss 2) 6,068

Millwall: Cuff; Donaldson, Gregory, Chambers (Mehmet), Kitchener, Blyth, Towner, Seaman, Mitchell, Walker, Chatterton.

Luton: Findlay; Price, Aizlewood, Carr (Jones), Turner, Donaghy, West, Hill, Stein, Hatton, Moss.

OLDHAM (1) 3 (Hicks, Hurst, Young pen.)

NOTTS CO (1) 3 (Hooks, Vinter, Blockley) 8,161

Oldham: McDonnell; Wood, Blair, Bell, Hicks, Hurst, Valentine, Halom, Young, Chapman, Gardner.

Notts Co: McManus; Richards, O'Brien, Benjamin (Blockley), Stubbs, Mann, McCulloch, Masson, Hooks, Hunt, Vinter.

PRESTON (2) 2 (Bruce, Jones o.g.)

WREXHAM (0) 1 (Lyons pen.) 17,820

Preston: Tunks; Taylor, Cameron, Burns, Baxter, O'Riordan, Coleman, Haslegrave, Robinson, Potts, Bruce.

Wrexham: Davies; Cegelski, Jones, Davis, Roberts (Evans), Giles, Shinton, Sutton, Lyons, Fox, Hill.

SHEFF. UTD (0) 1 (Garner)

NEWCASTLE (0) 0 23,118

Sheff. U: Conroy, Franks, Garner, Kenworthy, Matthews, Calvert, Anderson, Speight, Varadi (Guy), Sabela, Hamson.

Newcastle: Hardwick; Brownlie, Mitchell, Martin, Barton, Blackley, Shoulder, Cassidy, Withe, Hibbitt, Connolly.

STOKE (1) 2 (McGroarty, O'Callaghan)

CHARLTON (0) 2 (Flanagan 2) 20,846

Stoke: Jones; Marsh, Scott, Kendall, Smith (Dodd), Doyle, McGroarty, Irvine, O'Callaghan, Crooks, Richardson.

Charlton: Wood; Shaw, Campbell, Gritt, Shipperley, Berry, Brisley, Robinson, Flanagan, Madden, Powell.

SUNDERLAND (0) 1 (Clarke)

LEICESTER (1) 1 (Henderson) 24,544

Sunderland: Siddall; Henderson, Bolton, Chisholm (Brown), Clarke, Elliott, Buckley, Roston, Entwistle, Lee, Rowell.

Leicester: Wallington; Whitworth, Rose, Williams, May, O'Neill, Goodwin, Ridley, Christie (Duffy), Davies, Henderson.

WEST HAM (0) 0

ORIENT (1) 2 (Mayo, Chiedozie) 28,220

West Ham: Day; Lampard, Brush, Pike, Taylor (T), McDowell, Curbishley (Jennings), Devonshire, Cross, Taylor (A), Robson.

Orient: Jackson; Fisher, Roffey, Grealish, Gray, Went, Kitchen, Moores, Mayo, Chiedozie, Coates (Banjo).

THIRD DIVISION

BRENTFORD (0) 2 (Smith D. 2)

PLYMOUTH (0) 1 (Binney) 7,360

Brentford: Bond; Salman, Tucker, McNichol, Kruse, Graham (J), Graham (W), (Fraser), Glover, Smith (D), Alder, Phillips.

Plymouth: Burns; Bason, McNeill, Silkman, Foster, Clarke, Fear, Megson, Binney, Chapman, Ford.

BURY (2) 3 (Beamish 2, Gregory)

ROTHERHAM (0) 2 (Phillips 2) 5,852

Bury: Forrest; Hamstead, Kennedy, Lugg, Tucker, Bailey, Stanton, Wilson (Woolfall), Beamish, Gregory, Taylor.

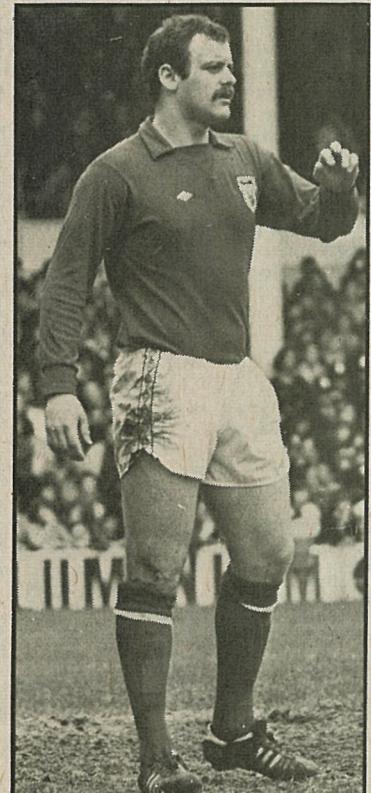
Rotherham: McAllister; Forrest, Breckin, Stancliffe, Green, Flynn, Finney, Phillips, Wignall, Dowman, Foley, Gough, Dyer (Allinson), Wright, Rowles.

CHESTER (1) 1 (Walker)

CARLISLE (1) 2 (Kemp, McVitie) 4,690

Chester: Lloyd; Nickeas, Raynor, Stortor, Jeffries, Phillips, Sutcliffe, Livermore, Howat (Burns), Walker, Jones.

Carlisle: Swinburne; Hoolickin, McCartney, Ludlam, Tait, Parker, McVitie, Bonnyman, Lumby, Kemp, Hamilton.



Sunderland's Barry Siddall had a fine game in his side's 1-1 draw at home to Leicester City.

CHESTERFIELD (2) 3 (Walker, Fern, Prophett)
SHEFF. WED (2) 3 (Wylde, Porterfield, Johnson) 13,322

Chesterfield: Letheran; Trott, Burton, Hunter, Cottam, Prophett, Walker, Kowalski, Fern, Salmons, Cammack.

Sheff. W: Turner; Blackhall, Rushbury, Smith, Pickering, Johnson, Wylde, Porterfield, Leman, Lowey, Hornsby.

EXETER (2) 3 (Sims, Randell, Pearson)
WALSALL (0) 1 (Austin) 4,159

Exeter: O'Keefe; Templeman, Hore, Delves, Giles, Roberts, Neville, Pearson, Sims, Randell, Hatch.

Walsall: Kearns; Paul, Caswell, Harrison, Serella, Macken, Birch, Waddington (S), Austin, McDonough, Kelly.

GILLINGHAM (0) 1 (Jolley)
SOUTHEND (0) 0 6,644

Gillingham: Hillyard; Sharpe, Armstrong, Overton, Weatherley, Crabbe, Nicholl, Hughes, Jolley, Westwood, Richardson.

Southend: Cawston; Stead, Walker, Laverick, Hadley, Moody, Morris, Pountney, Parker, Dudley, Polycarpou.

HULL (2) 3 (Edwards 2, Bannister pen.)

MANSFIELD (0) 0 4,700

Hull: Blackburn; Nisbet, Devries, Croft, Horswill, Haigh, Gilvain, Lord (Stewart), Edwards, Bannister, Farley.

Mansfield: Arnold; Dawkins, Foster (B), Goodwin, Saxby (M), Bird, (Wood), Moss, Syrett, Foster (C), McClelland.

OXFORD (0) 2 (Foley, Graydon)
COLCHESTER (0) 0 4,892

Oxford: Burton; Taylor, Fogg, Briggs, Bodel, Jeffrey, Graydon, Duncan, Foley, Seacole, Hodgson.

Colchester: Walker; Cook, Packer, Hodge, Wignall, Dowman, Foley, Gough, Dyer (Allinson), Wright, Rowles.

PETERBOROUGH (0) 0

LINCOLN (0) 1 (Watson) 4,592

Peterborough: Waugh; Hindley, Styles, Doyle, Green, Ross, Robertson, Holman, Butlin, Anderson, Robson.

Lincoln: Turner; Guest, Leigh, Fleming, Wiggington, Smith, Hobson, Harford, Tynan (Cockhill), Watson, Neale.

SWANSEA (0) 1 (Toshack)

SWINDON (1) 2 (Bates, Gilchrist) 16,770

Swansea: Crudington; Evans, Smith, Phillips, Stevenson, Charles, Toshack, James, Curtis, Waddell (Bartley), Callaghan.

Swindon: Ogden; McLaughlin, Ford, McHale, Aizlewood, Stroud, Miller, Carter, Gilchrist, Oakes, Kamara (Williams).

TRANMERE (0) 0

BLACKPOOL (0) 2 (Ronson, Bramhall o.g.) 3,491

Tranmere: Johnson; Mathias, Flood, Parry, Bramhall, Evans, Craven, Palios, Moore, Pepple, McAuley.

Blackpool: Hesford; Malone, Pashley, Thompson, Suddaby, McEwan, Kellow, Ronson, Spence, Davidson, Wagstaff.

WATFORD (2) 2 (Jenkins 2)

SHREWSBURY (1) 2 (Chapman, McGuire) 20,276

Watford: Sherwood; Stirk, Harrison, Bolton, Sims, Garner, Joslyn, Mercer (Mayes), Jenkins, Train, Downes.

Shrewsbury: Wardle; King, Larkin, Turner, Griffin, Keay, Chapman, Atkins, Tong, Biggins, Maguire.

FOURTH DIVISION

BARNESLEY (3) 6 (Clarke 3, Little, Graham, Millar)

PORT VALE (1) 2 (Todd, Keenan) 10,532

Barnsley: Springett; Collins, Chambers, Pugh, Saunders, McCarthy, Little, Clarke, Graham, Millar, Bell (Riley).

Port Vale: Connaughton; Keenan, Bentley, Todd, Delgado, Hawkins, Tully, Farrell, Wright, Sinclair, Healy.

BRADFORD C (0) 1 (McNiven)

ROCHDALE (0) 0 4,882

Bradford C: Downsbrough; Podd, Watson, Reaney, Middleton, Wood, Bates, Dolan, Szabo (Martinez), McNiven, Hutchins.

Rochdale: Felgate; Creamer, Taylor, Scaife, Scott, Hart (Bannon), Hoy, O'Loughlin, Jones, Owen, Esser.

DONCASTER (1) 2 (Bentley, Owen)

DARLINGTON (2) 3 (Wann, Stone, Seal) 2,889

Doncaster: Peacock; Reed, Bentley, Cork, Bradley, Olney, Laidlaw, Owen, Lewis, Meagan, Bowden (Sodin).

Darlington: Burleigh; Natress, Cochrane, Hague, Graig, Stone, Probert, Paterson (Maitland), Seal, Wann, Walsh.

HUDDERSFIELD (1) 2 (Robins, Fletcher)

5,341

Huddersfield: Starling; Brown, Branagan, Gray, Topping, Sutton, Fletcher, Hart, Cowling, Robins, Bielby.

Halifax: Leonard; Bradley, Hutt, Smith, Sidebottom, Dunleavy, Nixon, Carroll, Mountford (Campbell), Kennedy, Loska.

NEWPORT (1) 1 (Wilson o.g.)

TORQUAY (1) 1 (Murphy) 6,930

Newport: Lee; Walden, Byrne, Thompson, Davies, Bruton, Oakes, Lowndes, Goddard, Woods, Vaughan.

Torquay: Turner; Darke, Twitchin, Davies, Green, Dunne, Wilson, Lawrence, Coffill, Murphy, Parsons.



Bruce Bannister scored from the spot in Hull's 3-0 home victory against Mansfield.

NORTHAMPTON (1) 2 (Reilly, McCaffrey)

ALDERSHOT (2) 3 (Needham 2, Dungworth)

3,325

Northampton: Jayes; Walker, Mead, Gedimintis, Robertson, Bryant, Farrington, Williams, Froggatt, Reilly, McCaffrey (Wassell).

Aldershot: Johnson; Howitt, Wooler, Dixon, Youlden, Jopling, Crosby, Brodie (Longhorn), Needham, Dungworth, McGregor.

READING (0) 1 (Kearney)

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 0 6,706

Reading: Death; Peters, White, Bowman, Hicks, Bennett, Alexander, Earles, Kearney, Sanchez, Wanklyn.

Bournemouth: Allen; Cunningham, Miller, Impey, Brown (R), Barton, Borthwick, MacDougall, Butler (M), Showers, Lennard.

SCUNTHORPE (1) 2 (Kilmore, pen. Grimes)

GRIMSBY (1) 1 (Kavanagh o.g.) 8,008

Scunthorpe: Crawford; O'Donnell, Pilling, Oates, Deere, Czuczman, Grimes, Kilmore, Earl, Kavanagh, Keeley.

Grimsby: Batch, Moore D, Moore K, Waters, Barker, Crombie, Ford, Mitchell, Lester, Cumming, Brolly (Drinkell).

STOCKPORT (0) 0

HEREFORD (1) 2 (Holmes, W., Stephens) 4,630

Stockport: Rogan; Smith, Rutter, Fogarty, Park, Thompson, Henson, Summerbee (Hallford), Bradd, Armstrong, Lee.

HEREFORD: Hughes; Price, Hunt, Layton, Burrows, Feeley, Bailey, Stephens, Crompton, Gould (Emery), Holmes (W.)

WIGAN (0) 1 (Houghton)

CREWE (0) 0 7,586

Wigan: Grew; Smart, Hinnigan, Gore, Ward, Fretwell, Corrigan, Wright, Houghton, Moore, Purdie.

Crewe: Rafferty; Wilkinson, Dulson, Roberts, Bowles, Rimmer, Davies, Purdie (Nichols), Nelson, Warnock, Robertson.

WIMBLEDON (2) 2 (Knowles 2)

PORTSMOUTH (1) 4 (Barnard, Wilson, Davey, Hemmerman)

7,862

Wimbledon: Goddard; Bryant, Haverson, Galliers, Galvin, Eames, Leslie (Driver), Briley, Knowles, Cork, Cowley.

Portsmouth: Mellor; Ellis, Viney, Denyer, Foster, Davey, Hemmerman, Latham, Wilson, Barnard, Pullar.

YORK (0) 1 (Faulkner)

HARTLEPOOL (0) 1 (Crumplin) 3,825

York: Brown; Kay, Walsh, Pugh, Faulkner, Clements, Ford, Randall, Wellings (Loggie), McDonald, Staniforth.

Hartlepool: Richardson; Smith (G), Gorry, Lawrence, Brooks, Ayre, Linacre, Goldthorpe, Crumlin, Newton, Loadwick.

THURSDAY, DEC. 28

F.A. CUP (Second Round Replay)

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 (MacDougall)

WIMBLEDON (0) 2 (Cork, Parsons) a.e.t. 7,192

Bournemouth: Allen; Cunningham, Miller, Impey, Brown (R), Barton, Borthwick, MacDougall, Butler (M), Showers (Massey), Lennard.

Wimbledon: Goddard; Perkins, Eames, Kettridge, Galvin, Donaldson (Denny), Parsons, Briley, Knowles, Cork, Haverson.

Postponed: Rotherham v. Barnsley.

FRIDAY, DEC. 29

FOURTH DIVISION

STOCKPORT (1) 4 (Bradd, Lee 2, Summerbee)

PORTSMOUTH (0) 2 (Pullar, Garwood) 3,795

Stockport: Rogan; Smith, Rutter, Edwards, Park, Thompson, Henson, Armstrong, Bradd, Summerbee, Lee.

Portsmouth: Mellor; Ellis (Garwood), Viney, Denyer, Foster, Davey, Hemmerman, Latham, Wilson, Barnard, Pullar.

Postponed: Third Division: Tranmere v. Sheff. Wed.

SATURDAY, DEC. 30

FIRST DIVISION

ARSENAL (1) 3 (Stapleton, Rice, Sunderland)

BIRMINGHAM (1) 1 (Francis pen.) 27,877

Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Walford, Price, O'Leary, Young, Brady, Sunderland, Stapleton, Gatting, Rix.

Birmingham: Montgomery; Tarantini, Dennis, Riach, Broadhurst, Page, Towers, Francis, Givens, Buckley, Dillon.

BRISTOL C (1) 1 (Ritchie)

MAN. CITY (0) 1 (Fletcher R.) 25,253

Bristol C: Shaw; Sweeney, Gillies, Gow, Rodgers, Hunter (Mann), Tainton, Ritchie, Royle, Cormack, Whitehead.

Man. C: Corrigan; Ranson, Donachie, Fletcher (P), Watson, Power, Channon, Owen, Fletcher (R), Hartford, Barnes.

EVERTON (1) 1 (Lyons)

TOTTENHAM (1) 1 (Lee) 44,363

Everton: Wood; Robinson, Todd, Lyons, Wright, Nulty, King, Dobson, Latchford, Kenyon (Ross), Telfer.

Tottenham: Kendall; Naylor, McAllister, Villa, Lacy, Perryman, Pratt, Ardiles, Lee, Jones, Taylor.

IPSWICH (3) 5 (Osman, Muhrer 2, Wark, Mariner)

CHELSEA (0) 1 (Langley) 21,439

Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Mills, Talbot (Geddis), Butcher, Osman, Wark, Muhrer, Mariner, Gates, Woods.

Chelsea: Phillips; Harris, Stride, Nutton, Wicks, Bustead, Stanley (Walker), Britton, Langley, Lewington, Aylott.

MAN. UTD (3) 3 (Greenhoff B., McQueen, McIlroy)

W.B.A. (3) 5 (Brown T. 2, Cantello, Cunningham, Regis) 45,091

Man. U: Bailey; Greenhoff (B), Houston, McIlroy, McQueen, Buchan, Coppell, Greenhoff (J) (Sloan), Ritchie, McCreery, Thomas.

W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Brown (T), Wile, Robertson, Robson, Cantello, Regis, Brown (A), Cunningham.

G.P.R. (0) 1 (Eastoe)

LEEDS (1) 4 (Hawley 2, Harris, Gray E.) 17,435

Q.P.R.: Parkes; Clement, Gillard, Hollins, Howe (Allen), Roeder, Shanks, Eastoe, Hamilton, Bowles, Goddard.

Leeds: Harvey; Cherry, Gray (F) (Parkinson), Flynn, Hart, Madeley, Gray (E), Graham, Hawley, Currie, Harris.

WOLVES (1) 1 (Daley)

COVENTRY (0) 1 (Hutchison) 21,514

Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, McAlle, Berry, Hibbitt, Daley, Bell, Eves, Carr.

Coventry: Blyth; Osgood, McDonald, Blair, Holton, Coop, Nardiello, Wallace, Thompson (Ferguson), Powell, Hutchison.

Postponed: Aston Villa v. Bolton; Middlesbrough v. Derby; Nottm Forest v. Norwich; Southampton v. Liverpool.



Alan Little was on the mark in Barnsley's 6-2 thrashing of Port Vale.

SECOND DIVISION

BRIGHTON (1) 2 (Poskett, O'Sullivan)

25,812

Brighton: Moseley; Cattlin, Williams, Horton, Rollings, Lawrence, Ryan, Poskett, Maybank, Sayer, O'Sullivan.

Newcastle: Hardwick; Brownlie, Mitchell, Suggett (Mulgrove), Martin, Barton, Shoulder, Cassidy, Withe, Hibbitt, Connolly.

BURNLEY 0

CARDIFF 0

9,807

Burnley: Stevenson; Scott (Morley), Brennan, Noble, Thomson, Rodaway, Hall, Ingham, Fletcher, Kindon, James.

Cardiff: Healey; Dwyer, Pethard, Thomas, Pontin, Larmour, Campbell, Attley, Bishop, Evans, Lewis.

C. PALACE (1) 1 (Hilaire)

ORIENT (0) 1 (Mayo)

20,100

Palace: Burridge; Hazell, Sansom, Kember, Cannon, Gilbert, Nicholas, Murphy (Smillie), Swindlehurst, Hilaire, Walsh.

Orient: Jackson; Fisher, Roffey, Greasham, Gray, Went, Hughton, Moore, Mayo, Chiedozie, Kitchen.

FULHAM (1) 1 (Aizlewood o.g.)

LUTON (0) 0

8,914

Fulham: Peyton; Evans, Strong, Lock (Greenaway), Money, Evanson, Davies, Bullivant, Guthrie, Margerrison, Marinello.

Luton: Findlay; Price, Aizlewood, Carr, Turner (Jones), Donaghy, West, Hill, Stein, Hatton, Moss.

OLDHAM (0) 0

CHARLTON (2) 3 (Flanagan 2, Hales) 4,191

Oldham: McDonnell; Sinclair, Edwards, Bell, Holt, Hurst, Valentine, Halom, Young, Chapman (Taylor), Gardner.

Charlton: Wood; Shaw, Campbell, Gritt, Shipperley, Berry, Brisley, Hales, Flanagan, Madden, Powell.

PRESTON (1) 1 (Bruce)

BRISTOL R (0) 1 (Hendrie)

12,660

Preston: Tunks; Taylor, Cameron, Burns, Baxter, O'Riordan, Coleman, Haslegrave, Robinson, Potts, Bruce.

Bristol R: Thomas; Day, Jones, Emmanuel, Taylor, Harding, Hendrie, Williams, Staniforth, White, Mabbott (Dennehy).

SHEFF. UTD (1) 3 (Varadi 2, Matthews)

CAMBRIDGE (0) 3 (Cozens, Biley 2) 14,527

Sheff. U: Conroy; Franks, Garner, Calvert, Matthews, Kenworthy, Anderson, Speight, Varadi, Sabella, Hamson.

Cambridge: Webster; Buckley, Smith, Stringer, Fallon, Streete, Murray, Spriggs, Cozens, Finney, Biley.

STOKE (1) 2 (Irvine, O'Callaghan)

NOTTS CO (0) 0

21,393

Stoke: Jones; Marsh, Scott, Kendall, Smith, Doyle, Randall, Irvine (Dodd), O'Callaghan, Crooks, Richardson.

Notts Co: McManus; Richards, O'Brien, Benjamin, Stubbs, Mann, McCulloch, Masson, Hooks, Hunt, Vinter (Blockley).

WEST HAM (1) 4 (Robson, Taylor A., Cross, Curtis o.g.)

BLACKBURN (0) 0

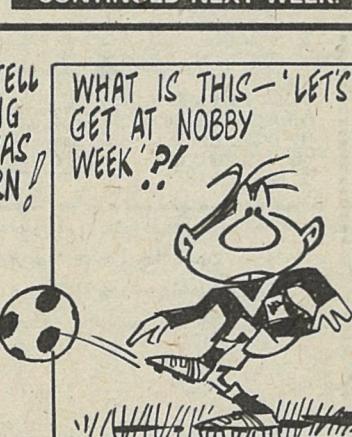
21,269

West Ham: Day; Lampard, Brush, Bonds, Martin, McDowell, Taylor (A), Devonshire, Cross, Brooking, Robson.

Blackburn: Butcher; Hird, Curtis, Metcalfe, Keeley, Round, Fowler, Radford, Craig (Morris), Garner, Birchall.

Postponed: Millwall v. Leicester; Sunderland v. Wrexham.

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.



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Man. City	—	£11.30	£12.10	£12.50	£13.10	£14.85	
Rangers	—	£12.70	£13.35	£13.90	£14.65	£16.40	
Scotland	£10.55	£11.30	£12.10	£12.50	£13.10	£14.85	£15.55

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Wales	£13.60	£15.00	£16.60	£17.95

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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

PRESTON

PRESTON North End. One of the great names of English football and it is an old saying in soccer that, once you have reached the peak, it is downhill from then onwards.

So, in a way, it was unfortunate for Preston that they made a major impact in their first season of League football!

What more can a team achieve than win the League Championship without losing a game and clinch the F.A. Cup without conceding a goal. That was Preston North End's remarkable feat in the 1888-89 season, their first.

Preston were one of 12 founder members after being formed in 1881 by members of North End Cricket Club.

Preston's 'double' winning performance made them a mecca for players — and it was an open secret that they paid their players. But after playing Upton Park in the F.A. Cup in 1884, Park protested to the F.A. that their opponents were professionals and Preston were expelled from the competition.

It was a short-lived exile. They came back in 1887 to beat Hyde 26-0. That record score still stands, and is unlikely to be beaten.

Preston retained their League title in 1889-90 and were runners-up for the next three seasons. But in 1901 they were relegated to Division Two, and although they won the Second Division title in 1903-04 and were runners-up in the First Division in 1905-06, Preston were to have their share of relegations.

They were Division Two Champions again in 1912-13 and runners-up in 1914-15 and 1933-34 and were also runners-up in the F.A. Cup Final in 1922 and 1937.

That 1922 F.A. Cup Final is remembered because Preston lost 1-0 to a penalty goal by Hudders-

FIRST TEAM TO DO THE 'DOUBLE'

field Town. In 1938, Preston gained revenge when with the match poised 0-0 in extra-time, Preston were awarded a penalty. George Mutch scored from the spot. Their opponents? Huddersfield Town!

Preston's most recent glory era came in the early 1950's. Tom Finney was the kingpin and Preston were runners-up in the First Division in 1952-53 and 1957-58. They were losing Finalists to West Bromwich Albion in the 1954 F.A. Cup Final and in 1964 they were runners-up to West Ham.

It was ironic that when Preston sank into the Third Division for the first time in 1970 that they should go down with Aston Villa. Villa and Preston were two illustrious teams in the early years of the

game and both had performed the 'double'.

Promotion was won at the first attempt, but three seasons later they were back in the Third and it was only last season that they regained their place in the Second.



Striker Alex Bruce (above). A Preston team line-up (left) taken in 1922.



NOW PROUD AGAIN

NOBBY Stiles (left) Preston's manager is slowly restoring 'Proud Preston's' pride. That was the nickname the club had gained at the turn of the century. Stiles succeeded Harry Catterick as manager at Deepdale.

In his first season in charge, Preston won promotion from the Third Division and after a slow start to the present campaign in the Second Division, Preston are pulling away from the relegation zone.

Alex Bruce, top Third Division scorer last season, is once again on the mark in the higher grade of the Second Division. He has lost his scoring partner Mike Elwiss to Crystal Palace for £200,000 but remains a source of danger to Second Division defences this season.

PEN-PICTURES

L. App:— League appearances. G:— Goals. S:— Substitutes. All records to the end of the 1977-78 season).

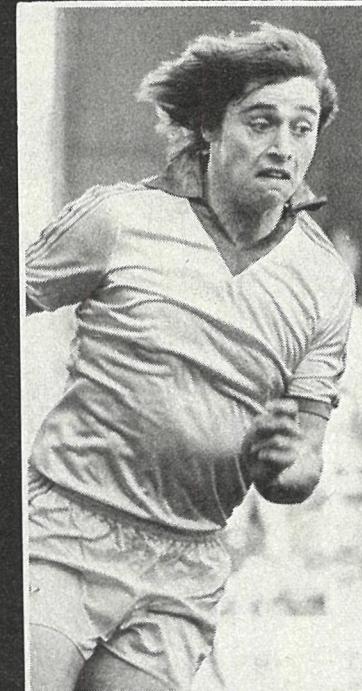
MIKE BAXTER: Central-defender signed professional in 1974. Born Birmingham. Ht. 6.1. Wt. 12.2. L. App:— 93 and 1 sub. G:— 6.

ALEX BRUCE: Striker and top scorer in the Third Division last season and in his second spell at Deepdale. Rejoined Preston from Newcastle in September, 1975 in an exchange deal that saw John Bird join United. Born Dundee. Ht. 5.8. Wt. 11.1. L. App:— Newcastle 16 and 4 sub. Preston (two spells) 184 and 9 sub. G:— Newcastle 3. Preston (two spells) 88.

FRANCIS BURNS: Midfielder signed from Southampton in August, 1973. One Scottish cap. Born Coatbridge. Ht. 5.9. Wt. 10.10. L. App:— Man. Utd 111 and 8 sub, Southampton 20 and 1 sub, Preston 194. G:— Man. Utd 6, Preston 11.

DANNY CAMERON: Defender signed from Sheffield Wednesday in April, 1976. Born Dundee. Ht. 5.6½. Wt. 11.3. L. App:— Sheff. Wed 31, Colchester (loan) 5, Preston 54 and 2 sub. G:— Sheff. Wed 1.

IAN COCHRANE: Striker signed professional in February, 1977. Born Bellshill.



Mick Robinson signed professional for the club in July, 1976.

Ht. 5.10. Wt. 11.1. L. App:— 1. G:— 1.

GORDON COLEMAN: Midfielder, but can play in any position after signing in August, 1973. Born Nottingham. Ht. 5.9. Wt. 10.10. L. App:— 121 and 12 sub. G:— 11.

STEPHEN DOYLE: Midfielder signed professional in June, 1975. Born Neath. Ht. 5.9½. Wt. 11.1. L. App:— 79 and 12 sub. G:— 2.

SEAN HASLEGRAVE: Midfielder signed from Nottingham Forest in September, 1977. Born Stoke. Ht. 5.8. Wt. 10.4½. L. App:— Stoke 106 and 7 sub, Forest 5 and 2 sub, Preston 38. G:— Stoke 5, Forest 1.

JOHN McMAHON: Defender signed professional in December, 1967. Now Preston's longest serving player. Born Manchester. Ht. 5.9. Wt. 11.11. L. App:— 248 and 1 sub, Southend (loan) 4. G:— Preston 7.

DON O'RIORDAN: Striker signed from American soccer after being released by Derby County. Signed for Preston in October, 1978. Born Dublin. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 11.6. L. App:— Derby 2 and 4 sub, Doncaster (loan) 2. G:— Derby 1.

ERIC POTTS: Midfielder signed from Brighton in August, 1978. Born Liverpool. Ht. 5.5. Wt. 10.2. L. App:— Sheff. Wed. 143 and 17 sub, Brighton 19 and 14 sub. G:— Sheff. Wed. 21. Brighton 5.

MICK ROBINSON: Striker signed professional in July, 1976. Born Leicester. Ht. 6.0. Wt. 12.12. L. App:— 9 and 3 sub. G:— 2.

JOHN SMITH: Striker signed professional in November, 1974. Born Coatbridge. Ht. 5.8. Wt. 10.9½. L. App:— 79 and 8 sub. G:— 4.

BRIAN TAYLOR: Midfielder signed from Plymouth Argyle in October, 1978. Born Gateshead. Ht. 5.10. Wt. 11.7. L. App:— Walsall 204 and 12 sub, Plymouth 26 and 1 sub, G:— Walsall 25, Plymouth 5.

RICKY THOMSON: Striker signed professional in June, 1975. Born Edinburgh. Ht. 5.8. Wt. 10.9. L. App:— 36 and 6 sub. G:— 10.

ROY TUNKS: Goalkeeper signed from Rotherham in November, 1974. Born Wuppertal (West Germany). Ht. 6.0½. Wt. 13.11. L. App:— Rotherham 138, York (loan) 4, Preston 154.

STEVE UZELAC: Central-defender signed from Doncaster Rovers on a free transfer in May, 1977. Born Doncaster. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 12.11½. L. App:— Doncaster 182 and 3 sub, Mansfield (loan) 2, Preston 2. G:— Doncaster 9.

HARRY WILSON: Defender signed from Brighton in July, 1977. Born Hetton-le-Hole. Ht. 5.9½. Wt. 11.8. L. App:— Burnley 12, Brighton 130, Preston 18. G:— Brighton 4.

PRESTON N.E.



BACK ROW (left to right): Mick Baxter, Stephen Doyle, John Kilner, Roy Turks, Sean Haslegrave, Harry Wilson, John McMahon.

MIDDLE: John Smith, Francis Burns, Alex Bruce, Graham Cross (contract cancelled), Mick Robinson, Steve Uzelac, Alan Spavin.

FRONT: George Warr (kit manager), Danny Cameron, Ricky Thomson, Nobby Stiles (manager), Alan Kelly (assistant manager), Ian Cochrane, Gordon Coleman, Harry Hubbick (trainer).

FOCUS ON

KAZIMIERZ DEYNA

Manchester City

FULL NAME: Kazimierz Deyna.

BIRTHPLACE: Starogard Gdanski.

BIRTHDATE: 23rd October, 1947.

HEIGHT: 5ft 11in.

WEIGHT: 11st 9lb.

PREVIOUS CLUBS: Wloknarz Starogard Gdanski (1960-65), LKS Lodz (1966) and Legia Warsaw (since 1966).

MARRIED: Yes, to Mariola.

CHILDREN: Son, Norbert, aged 5.

CAR: BMW 1600.

FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Pele and Bobby Charlton.

FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: The Ajax team that won three European Cups in succession and Manchester City.

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Many, but perhaps, Kolotov of Dynamo Kiev is the player I remember most.

MOST MEMORABLE MATCHES: Playing against Hungary in the Olympic Finals of 1972 in Munich. We won 2-1 and I scored both of our goals. And not forgetting the World Cup

qualifier against England at Wembley in 1973.

BIGGEST SUCCESSES: Gold medal and a title of Scorer King in Munich in 1972 with nine goals. Poland's third place in the World Cup in 1974 and third place in the France Football magazine poll for Europe's Top Player in 1974.

MOST MEMORABLE GOALS: A full-speed shot against Italy in the 1974 World Cup tournament and a deflected shot from a corner-kick during a 1978 qualifying match against Portugal in Chorzow. The match ended in a 1-1 draw.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Missing a penalty-kick against Argentina in the 1978 World Cup Finals.

BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Australia.

FAVOURITE FOOD: Pork chop.

FAVOURITE PAST-TIME: Watching T.V. when time permits.

MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Noisy places — sports stadiums excluded, of course.

FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: Good variety shows, films and good dramas.

FAVOURITE SINGERS: The late Elvis Presley and Tom Jones.

FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Richard Burton and Claudia Cardinale.

BEST FRIENDS: My wife and son.

WHAT DO YOU ATTRIBUTE YOUR SUCCESS TO? Hard work.

BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Bad referees who can distort, not only the course, but also the result of a match.

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: 102 matches in the national team, three Under-23's and ten in the junior squad.

PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To play three more years without injury.

PERSONAL AMBITION: That my son will be a better footballer than me.

IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? A pop singer.

WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Her Majesty The Queen.



Kazimierz Deyna

The frustrations of CHRIS WOODS

THE schoolboy dream that came true is in danger of turning sour for Chris Woods, the farmer's boy who helped Nottingham Forest win the League Cup nearly a year ago.

Woods, the teenage goalkeeper who became a Cup Final hero admired by millions, is having to endure playing in front of less than 200 people for Forest reserves.

Since his highly-praised performances against Liverpool, Woods has made only one first team appearance — against Mansfield in the Nottinghamshire County Cup.

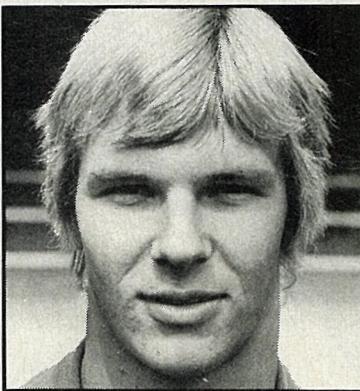
It is easy to understand his frustration, but easier still to accept Brian Clough must play Peter Shilton, rated by many as the best goalkeeper in the world.

Although Woods admits he is fortunate in having such a willing tutor as Shilton, he is very much aware of the eternal dilemma facing a talented understudy.

The question is brutally simple: Does he stay with Forest as an accepted reserve or look to further his career elsewhere with a regular place in a senior team?

"It is a very frustrating situation," reflects the softly-spoken Woods. "Obviously I have to think about my future."

"I am 19 now, and by the time you reach your early twenties you have to be thinking in terms of a



regular place in a League team.

"I have the greatest admiration for Peter Shilton as a goalkeeper and a clubmate. He has given me a great deal of help, but I wish he was with some other club!"

It is a measure of the level-headed youngster's dedication that he accepts Shilton will win any manager's vote, and is determined to give his all for Forest reserves.

The memories of Wembley and our success at Old Trafford in the replay are wonderful, and with the first team doing so well you cannot help feeling a little left out.

"But I take heart from the fact Peter Shilton himself had to spend some time as understudy to Gor-

don Banks at Leicester.

"I realise in football you can learn all the time — even playing in the reserves."

"Peter is keeping me out of the first team, but we are friendly rivals and work a lot together in training. As a goalkeeper you cannot have too much practice on crosses and getting your angles right."

"In my own mind I have improved since the League Cup Final, especially on crosses, where I feel I am more confident."

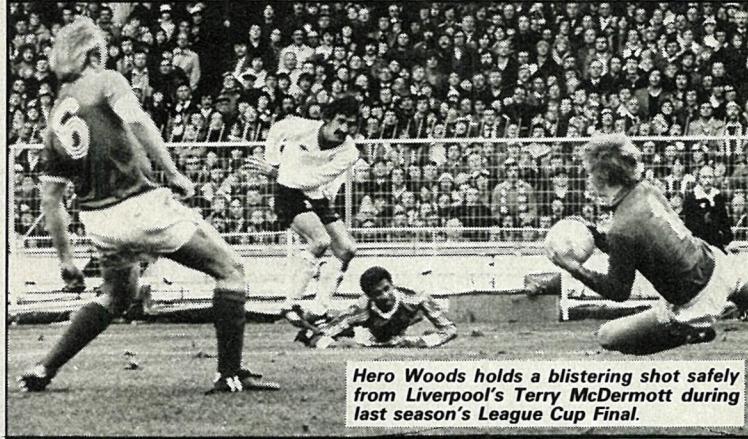
"I am aware that in the reserves there is a danger of losing your edge, but I dearly want to prove

myself again at first team level."

Woods, capped by England at youth level, can be found every Sunday clay pigeon shooting in the fields surrounding Boston in Lincolnshire. He also relaxes with occasional games of squash.

"I go out shooting with my father, who is a farmer, and my brother Jim," he says. "It is a great relaxation, and it gives me time to think over things."

"I have to be patient at the moment. With Forest I had a marvellous start to my career, and I want to win more honours to add to the League Cup winners' tankard I have at home."



Hero Woods holds a blistering shot safely from Liverpool's Terry McDermott during last season's League Cup Final.

The strengths of JAKE FINDLAY

"I KNOW I can do my stuff if I can get the chance to do it and I've been given the opportunity now." Those were the words spoken by Jake Findlay, the 24-year-old Perthshire born goalkeeper, after his £110,000 move from Aston Villa to Luton Town in November.

"I'm not bothered about the money involved," adds big Jake. "It wouldn't have made the slightest difference if the fee had been £5,000 or £300,000. All I wanted was first team football. But I must admit my transfer did take me completely by surprise."

"At the beginning of the season I went to see Villa boss, Ron Saunders, and he told me there wasn't much chance of my leaving. In fact, he gave me a three-year contract."

"Then a couple of weeks before I arrived at Luton I went to see him again and told him I was fed up with reserve team football. It was doing my career no good staying at Villa Park and I wanted to get away. Again he said, 'No.'

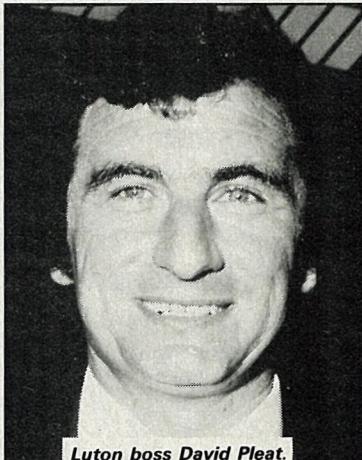
"Then it happened all at once. He called me into the office and said two or three clubs had been enquiring about me and Luton had offered the most money. Manager David Pleat came to see me and within two or three hours I was a Luton player."

"His actual words to me were, 'I want a first class goalkeeper to build the team around and in you I think I've got one.' I'd no hesitation. The bloke rated me and that

was enough. It was a real confidence-booster and a great feeling."

Jake arrived at Aston Villa in 1970 as a 15-year-old apprentice and won an F.A. Youth Cup medal before turning professional in 1972. His debut came in 1974 in a Second Division game with Sunderland. He made 14 League appearances and also played in the F.A. Cup, the League Cup and the U.E.F.A. Cup.

"I've left a lot of good friends



Luton boss David Pleat.

behind," he says, "but there are no real regrets at leaving Aston Villa, although packing up house and picking up my boots and saying to

myself, 'Well, I'm not coming back here,' can be a little sad. But you've got to get your priorities right. My job is playing football and if I'm getting first team football somewhere else, then I've got to go there."

"The set-up at Kenilworth Road is very different from Villa Park. Everything runs on a much smaller scale. It's something I'm getting used to. But the ground facilities have nothing to do with me. All I'm interested in is the playing side. My job is to keep goals out — that's what I get paid for."

'Early Ball'

"Cross balls are my strength. I pride myself on this. Team boss, David Pleat, says I'm the only 'keeper he's watched who can come out for balls all the time. I get there as well. My distribution is very good. At Luton they like an early ball thrown rather than kicked to start things off."

"The team spirit here is great — all the lads get on well together. It's a nice atmosphere. It will take time for the fans to accept me because they used to have Milić Aleksić and he was a firm favourite. They want to see what I can do and I want to show them I can play."

"There are a lot of things to prove, but I think I'm equal to it. I know I can play."



"My aim is to work hard, gain a regular first team spot, get in the First Division, and to play for Scotland. At the moment Luton are in the wrong half of the table. The results don't do the club justice, but we'll crawl up. After all, most of the lads have only played together this season and the back end of last."

"I think we can win promotion at the end of next season or the season after, but we'll have to work for it. It's no good going out half-hearted — you've got to be prepared to work."

Why don't the fans flock to see

TITLE-CHASING DUNDEE UNITED?



United's Paul Sturrock beats Alex Forsyth of Rangers to cross the ball during their 1-1 draw at Ibrox in October.

DUNDEE UNITED are the sort of team who like to put on a command performance on the soccer pitch combining the arts and crafts, the poise and the pace and the grace and the glory of the game.

There is one snag... their spectacular show of skills rarely attracts the sort of audience they surely deserve.

It's a problem that has worried Tannadice manager Jim McLean since he took over United seven years ago. He moved across the road from Dundee where he was a much-lauded coach to become a boss in his own right and he knew he had a job in front of him.

In those seven years McLean has built a team of which he can be proud. He has brought along gifted individuals such as Andy Gray, now with Aston Villa, of course, David Narey, Paul Hegarty, Graeme Payne, Raymond Stewart and Paul Sturrock, but still the Dundee public prefer to ignore their local side when they go into action.

McLean must be wondering what is left for him at Tannadice. He has put a good team on the pitch. They play attractive soccer, they have a pattern others envy, possibly they don't score as many goals as they should, but, even with that failing, they still deserve a far better support.

They went to the top of the so-competitive Premier Division. However, even from that lofty position they could only attract 6,000 fans to their home games. It really is quite a disgraceful situation.

The fans were up in arms when United sold super-striker Gray to Villa for £110,000, but if all the people who made a noise then had made a noise on a Saturday encouraging their team, McLean might never have had to sell Gray.

McLean thought Andy should have performed in front of crowds his talents deserved. This must put pressure on him if any of today's

star performers asked for a transfer.

Unfortunately, United have fallen down in the past after promising so much and this can frustrate fans, but, at the same time, the Tannadice side still believe in entertainment and there are some clubs who will put results above all else.

What does the future hold for United? Can they make the big breakthrough? Can they land a major trophy?

Certainly they have the nucleus of a very good side and if they can manage to hang on to their best players there is no doubt the team will become settled and the intricate style of play will become more off the cuff which would introduce a relaxed atmosphere about the side which may not be a bad thing.

United haven't had a successful striker since Gordon Wallace and Andy Gray left. McLean bought Tom McAdam from Dumbarton, but things didn't click at Tannadice and he is now finding more success with Celtic.

John Bourke was also bought from Dumbarton and he looked like settling in, but, for personal reasons, he walked out on the club at the start of the season and refused to return. He was eventually sold to Kilmarnock for £40,000.

McLean has now bought Derek Frye from Stranraer, but he hasn't really made the impact expected. Possibly the answer lies with another youngster, Davie Dodds.

He is brave and courageous and once some of the rough edges are knocked off United will certainly get more reward for their outfit domination. Only then can United think seriously about claiming a major Cup.

And, hopefully, then the fans will stir from their lethargy and realise their local team is serving up the sort of soccer other supporters would be glad to see every week.

At last- Partick's O'HARA lives up to his promise...

WEST GERMANY'S World Cup captain Berti Vogts pointed to the young player out on the pitch and demanded: "What is his name? Who is he?"

The information was passed on to him and he jotted down the name. He watched the player and took notes on his play. Afterwards he said: "I must confess I had never heard of him before, but he is a very, very good young player. We will hear more of him in the future."

The player Vogts was so impressed by was Alex O'Hara, then with Rangers and now with Partick Thistle.

Vogts had come to Scotland six years ago on behalf of his club side Borussia Munchengladbach to watch Rangers, the team they were due to face in European competition.

The world-class full-back went to Gayfield to catch up with Rangers as they played Arbroath on the tight, little pitch. There's not much scope for individual skill, but O'Hara made space for himself that day and found the time to pop up with two goals to give the Ibrox men a 2-1 victory.

Vogts must have done his homework well for Borussia won through to the next round, but his predication about O'Hara hasn't quite come true. Not yet, anyway!

"I let some things go to my head when I was younger," says O'Hara, who was introduced to the Rangers first team as a 16-year-old.

He dropped out after a promising start. He had real and rare

talent, but he seemed to lose direction at Ibrox. Before his £25,000 move to Partick Thistle last season he was playing centre-back which really is not the position where a player of his immense skill and ball-playing ability is expected to be.

O'Hara is a constructive player rather than a destructive one. He likes to make the play, he likes to bring the ball forward.

"It was a wrench leaving Ibrox," he says, "but the opportunity of first team football at Firhill was too good to turn down.

"I knew I had to start afresh and I'm happy to be here. There are so many good players and you have to fight all the way to hold down a permanent top team spot.

"Not even Alan Rough is guaranteed a place so you see what I mean!"

O'Hara comes from the sprawling Glasgow housing estate of Castlemilk which has already presented first class soccer with players such as Arthur Graham and Frankie Gray (Leeds United) and Willie Donachie (Manchester City).

The Thistle mid-fielder had a more spectacular baptism to the top flight than any of that trio, but he knows they have all gone to represent their country at full level while he has been out in the cold.

He has made mistakes and he has paid for them. Possibly the glare of publicity was too much for him as a teenager. Now he is older and wiser.

Berti Vogts could yet be right with his prediction!



Alex O'Hara heads towards the St. Mirren goal.

NEWCASTLE United, three times winners of the F.A. Cup in the 1950's, have included some famous names in their line-ups in post-War football.

Therefore, in an area where controversy about soccer is easily aroused, it is easy to imagine that selecting the best Newcastle team for the period extending over the last 30 years would create plenty of argument — but it's a task any soccer fan would enjoy.

The Magpies, a club with a great tradition, were not exactly on top of the world when peace-time football started again in 1946-47. Newcastle were languishing in the Second Division, but ambition abounded at Gallowgate, and the first proof of it came when centre-half Frank Brennan was signed from Airdrieonians.

Brennan, 6ft. 2 1/2 ins. and 14 stone, had recently played for Scotland in the Hampden Park Victory International against England and later became the sheet anchor of United's promotion and Cup-winning sides.

Shortly after Brennan's arrival on Tyneside, Newcastle centre-forward Albert Stubbins asked for a transfer, his second request within a few months, and moved to Liverpool for £13,000. George Stobart, snapped up by Newcastle from Middlesbrough, competed for the number nine spot.

There followed the signing of Len Shackleton from Bradford for £13,000 in October, 1946, and a sensational debut for "Shack" for United at St. James' against Newport County, when he scored six goals in Newcastle's 13-0 victory.

Local Lads

Prior to this runaway win over Newport, United had opened their post-War League programme at Millwall with the following side: Garbutt; Cowell, Graham; Harvey, Brennan, Wright; Milburn, Bentley, Stubbins, Wayman, Pearson.

This team, appearing in the old 2-3-5 formation, included local youngsters Doug Graham, Bobby Cowell, Jackie Milburn and Charlie Wayman — and in the line-up, only Wright, Stubbins and Pearson had played in pre-War soccer for Newcastle.

Other young North-East players on the books included Tommy Walker, Ernie Taylor, Charlie Crowe, Bobby Corbett, Ron Batty and Tommy Thompson, all of whom were to gain first team places — but out of all this home-bred talent, it was Milburn who was to carve out the biggest reputation for himself.

Jackie's speed, mobility and terrific shooting made him a match-winner and an idol at St. James' Park. An England centre-forward, Milburn had originally figured as an inside-left and also at outside-right for United, before building his reputation as a goalscorer.

Wayman and Stobart had both appeared at centre-forward, with Wayman scoring 30 goals in the 1946-47 season. Later, in October, 1947, Wayman moved to Southampton and it was after this Milburn became a permanent choice.

Jackie recalls: "I always looked upon myself as a winger or inside-left rather than a centre-forward. Even after I had played for years in

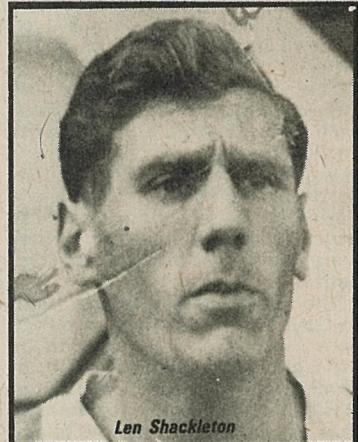
the centre, I believe I would have preferred inside-left if given the choice."

But Milburn's goalscoring abilities kept him at centre-forward, supported by Shackleton and Roy Bentley, the latter a signing from Bristol City. And although Shackleton was transferred to Sunderland in February, 1948, he had made a big impression on the Newcastle fans during his short stay at St. James'.

Unorthodox and a brilliant ball-player, "Shack" was sometimes accused of allowing his strong streak of individualism to take precedence over teamwork.

He jokes: "No side could afford a player of my style in the line-up today, when all the talk is about work-rate, and not so much about entertainment. I reckon half the fans were for me, and the other 50 per cent against me!"

Yet Shackleton's skill gained him England caps, and his ability to do the unexpected made it impossible for any defence to relax against him.



Len Shackleton

Gaining promotion to the First Division in 1948, Newcastle did well enough to finish fourth in 1948-9, when their home gates averaged 53,982. Then, in 1951, United went to Wembley to beat Blackpool 2-0 in the F.A. Cup Final, Milburn scoring twice.

This success, the first in what were to be the fabulous Fifties for Newcastle, was achieved with the following side: Fairbrother; Cowell, Corbett; Harvey, Brennan, Crowe; Walker, Taylor, Milburn, Robledo (G), Mitchell.

Jack Fairbrother, the goalkeeper, had been bought from Preston in 1947, the Robledo brothers, George and Ted, signed from Barnsley in January, 1949, for £26,500, and this Cup Final team was a good blend of bought and local talent.

The captain, Joe Harvey, joined Newcastle from Bradford City near the end of the War, and became one of the club's most effective captains. A tall, hard-working wing-half, he had the knack of getting maximum effort from his players. When Frank Brennan was once lying slightly dazed on the ground following a heavy tackle, Harvey bellowed: "Get up, big 'un, there's nowt wrong with you!"

It was Harvey who skippered United to their second successive F.A. Cup Final victory in two years when they defeated Arsenal, with a lone goal from George Robledo settling the issue only minutes from the end. The 1952 Wembley

The second in our occasional series

SHOOT select a team of GALLOWGATE GREATS

NEWCASTLE UNITED'S BEST POST-WAR PLAYERS

side included four changes from that of a year earlier, in a period when Newcastle were bent on maintaining a winning team, and busy in the transfer market.

Alf McMichael, a left-back, was secured from Linfield for the 1949-50 season, and in 1951, goalkeeper Ron Simpson was signed from Third Lanark, followed by Billy Foulkes from Chester. These three, together with Ted Robledo, appeared in the Arsenal Cup Final in a Newcastle team which lined up: Simpson; Cowell, McMichael; Harvey, Brennan, Robledo (E);



Jackie Milburn (above) is introduced to King George VI before the 1951 F.A. Cup Final. Bobby Moncur is stopped by the Uipset 'keeper during the 1969 Fairs Cup Final.



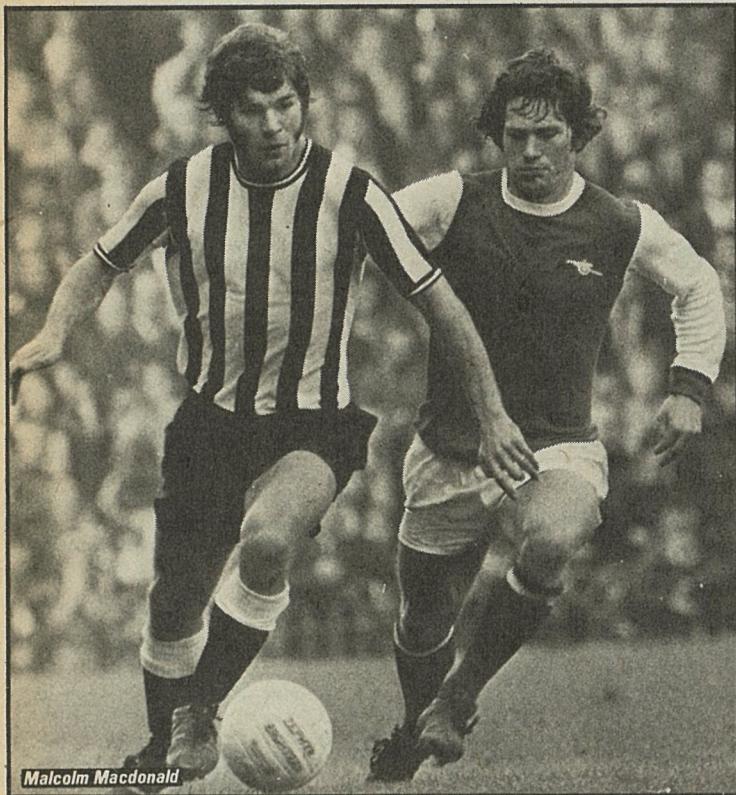
Walker, Foulkes, Milburn, Robledo (G), Mitchell.

Simpson, an amazingly active goalkeeper, made up for a lack of inches with excellent anticipation and quickness. Bob Cowell, the man who played in front of Simpson, said: "Nobody is faster at getting down to a low shot than Ronnie."

Surprisingly, Simpson moved on to an illustrious second career when he returned to his native Scotland, at a time when many people thought he had left the best of his goalkeeping skills behind him at Newcastle. Ron included in his honours over the border a European Cup-winners' medal with Glasgow Celtic, plus Scottish international caps.

And if Simpson was noted for razor-sharp reflexes, right-back Cowell gained fame on Tyneside for his speed of thought in tense goalmouth situations — in the 1951 Cup Final against Blackpool, Cowell headed off the goal-line with the score at 0-0, and his ability to make dramatic last-ditch clearances of this kind made him a celebrated figure at St. James' Park.

Describing his talent at nodding the ball off the line when his goalkeeper was beaten, Cowell said: "I've always considered it part of a full-back's job to be in a covering position when his side is under pressure. And if I seem to be in the



Malcolm Macdonald

right spot at the right time on frequent occasions, I suppose it's mainly a matter of instinct."

Irish international Alf McMichael formed a sound full-back partnership with Cowell, and Alf was capped for his country many times in the ten-year period from 1950 to 1960. A consistent defender, McMichael was the type of player who hated to admit defeat.

This characteristic also applied to the Newcastle United left-half, Charlie Crowe, who along with Harvey and Brennan, formed a formidable middle line. Crowe was the terrier-like sort of player who liked to crowd his opponents, and was an ideal Cup-battler.

And it was the flair for Cup football that carried Newcastle through to their third Wembley Final of the Fifties, in 1955, when there was considerable controversy about the composition of the side for the Final against Manchester City.

Even Jackie Milburn, who had appeared in all the previous ties at inside-forward, was in doubt about being selected, but eventually United fielded this team: Simpson; Cowell, Batty, Scoular, Stokoe, Casey; White, Milburn, Keeble, Hannah, Mitchell.

Frank Brennan had left Newcastle for North Shields in the North-Eastern League, and his place was filled by Bobby Stokoe. And at right-half, craggy Jimmy Scoular had taken over in Harvey's old position, after Scoular's spell as a Portsmouth stalwart, and left-half Tom Casey had joined Newcastle from Bournemouth in 1952.

Len White, the Newcastle outside-right, a quiet ex-miner, formed an effective wing partnership with Milburn, who scored United's first goal, and others by Hannah and Mitchell gave the Tynesiders a 3-1 victory. But this Wembley triumph was to be the last Newcastle success for over a decade, until 1969, when The Magpies won the Fairs Cup.



Alan Kennedy

In 1957, Milburn joined Linfield as player-coach, and White was switched from the wing to centre-forward, adapting successfully to his new role and fully deserving the honour of playing for the Football League in November, 1958.

Unfortunately for the North-Eastern club, the Sixties and Seventies have never approached the fantastic Fifties for drama, achievements and football-crazy crowds at Gallowgate. It was the F.A. Cup that brought the glory to Tyneside, although there have been outstanding players with Newcastle in the post-War years who never managed to pick up an F.A. Cup-winners' medal.

Ivor Broadis, Ivor Allchurch and George Eastham were all talented inside-forwards — Broadis played for England, Allchurch was a regular choice for Wales, and Eastham was selected for the Football League and the Under-23 eleven. None of these appeared in a Cup side for United at Wembley, but later there were two internationals who did — Malcolm Macdonald and Bobby Moncur.

Moncur, a strong defender who was a Scottish international, skippered the Newcastle team that was vanquished by Liverpool in 1974. Macdonald, a dedicated goalscorer, also played in that game.

This was a Cup Final that United will want to forget — but the Newcastle fans will never forget Malcolm Macdonald. Signed from Luton for £180,000, Malcolm became the biggest Tyneside idol since Jackie Milburn, and in the selection of a best Newcastle team of the post-War years, Macdonald is undoubtedly a name that must be considered.

And while his transfer to Arsenal brought much criticism on the head of the then-Newcastle manager, Gordon Lee, there were many United fans who cherished the hope Macdonald would return to Tyneside.

But whether or not he makes the round trip to Newcastle, Macdonald will remain a favourite at Gallowgate, as will Moncur — he, too, is a candidate for a best United team. And there are others, such as Stan Anderson, a polished half-back, not forgetting Dick Keith and David Craig, both accomplished right-backs.

Anderson was the seemingly unhurried type of midfield man whose passing was precise, and whose reading of the game was also accurate. An England international, Stan is a definite contender for a best Newcastle post-War side.

Polished

And in the Newcastle squad of 1978-79, there is the polished Irving Nattrass at right-back, whose cultured play has made him a key man at Gallowgate, as well as a candidate for a best United team.

Irving's partner of last season was left-back Alan Kennedy, who was a great favourite on Tyneside before moving to Liverpool earlier this term — Alan's speed, strong tackling and forceful style rank him as an outstanding defender.

So taking everything into consideration, our best post-War Newcastle side would read: Simpson; Cowell, Kennedy; Harvey, Brennan, Moncur; Milburn, Shackleton, Stubbins, Macdonald, Mitchell.

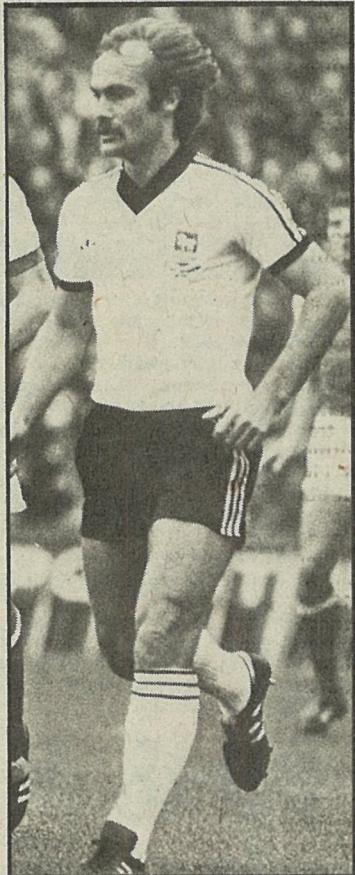
This team was submitted to the expert scrutiny of Jackie Milburn, who, incidentally, gave as his own selection: Simpson; Cowell, Kennedy; Harvey, Brennan, Iley; White, Shackleton, Stubbins, Milburn, Mitchell.

Milburn, true to character, would have left himself out, in which case Malcolm Macdonald would have been included in his place — but who ever heard of a best Newcastle United side which didn't include Jackie Milburn? And Jackie, in partnership with the brilliant, ball-playing Bobby Mitchell, would have formed a devastating left-wing, backed up from midfield by Jim Iley, a half-back highly rated by Milburn.

Summing up, the differences in selection between the two chosen sides are not great. Newcastle fans, will of course probably disagree with the composition of the teams, but this is only to be expected — after all, football is a game of controversy.

IN SHOOT NEXT WEEK...

Colour: Nottingham Forest team group; Martin Dobson (Everton); Steve Daley (Wolves); Ralph Coates (Orient) v. Alan Devonshire (West Ham); Focus on Ian Fleming (Aberdeen).



Features: Previews — England's vital European Championship-tie against Northern Ireland at Wembley. Scotland v. Belgium at Hampden. Interviews with Northern Ireland boss Danny Blanchflower and England's supremo Ron Greenwood. Club Spotlight on Champions and League Cup holders Nottingham Forest. We choose a Second Division team based on current form.

Mick Mills (above) of Ipswich on his plans to revolutionise the League. Ally Robertson — "Scotland's best centre-back", according to his West Brom manager Ron Atkinson.

Emlyn Hughes (Liverpool and England) — now at the crossroads of his career.

Plus star-writers Ray Clemence, Gordon McQueen, Andy Gray and Derek Johnstone. And all your usual favourites such as World Wide, News Desk, Ask The Expert, You Are The Ref, Goal-lines, Football Funnies and Quiz Time.

Don't miss SHOOT next week — Britain's biggest-selling soccer magazine.



Leicester (dark shirts) were able to play their F.A. Cup-tie v. Norwich because of their famous hot air balloon (below).

THERE was only one result that mattered in the game on the first Saturday of 1979. It read; Scottish football 0, Winter weather 1.

It was a whiteout. A first round knockout by the snows and frosts of every game in the land. And, as usual, it brought calls for summer football, or at least a winter break.

But while I go along with most people in feeling annoyed about disruption to football, I can't say that I fancy the idea of summer soccer . . . or for that matter a close down in December and January.

Footballers you see, are only human and if you have to work through the summer and take a rest in mid-winter, it doesn't leave much scope for holidaymaking.

'Football will never come in from the cold'

It's not much fun watching or playing football in December or January, but it is even worse trying to get a bit of a tan on Britain's beaches.

The funny thing is that no one seems to mention re-organising our season at any other time of the year . . . only when the snows come.

Last year was bad admittedly, but before that football had not been crippled by weather since 1963. I suppose the ideal solution would be to see into the future, but I am afraid our weather forecasters aren't that spot-on!

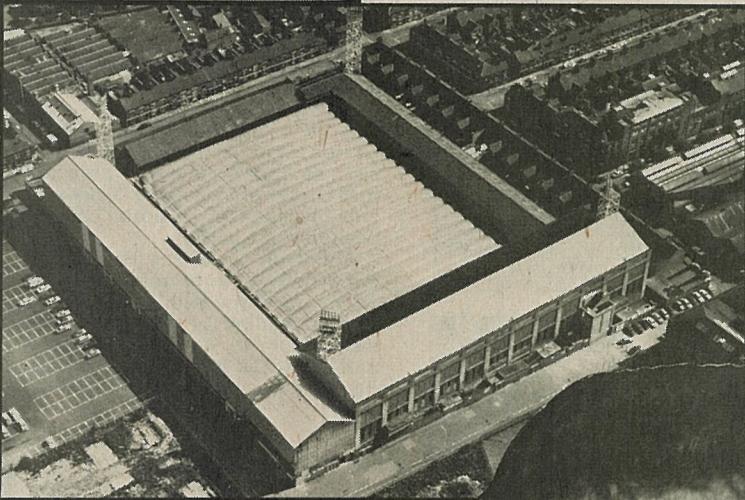
A winter break is not the answer. It is important for the authorities to remember that football is a livelihood to the players and that they, too, have wives and children to consider.

And remember, also, that many players are part-time. If they were playing right through the summer and could only holiday in January how would they get time off from their day to day jobs?

And, incidentally, what would come of the British Championship in May, the European Championship, and the World Cup?

Whatever the solution to the problem . . . it certainly isn't summer soccer.

The crazy thing about all the so called solutions to stopping the pitches freezing is that none of them really take care of the supporters.



Tartan Talk **DANNY**
McGRAIN

The hot air balloon at Leicester City, the undersoil heating at Highbury and rugby's Murrayfield, the straw and polythene we once used at Parkhead . . . all are fine on occasions, but they don't do anything to help the terracings or the approach roads to the grounds.

Not one of these remedies works ALL of the time because if the weather is severe enough it will beat anything.

No, I am afraid football will never come in from the cold. We can ask forever how to solve the problem of the snows, but it is an icy question we might never answer.

Another cold front sweeping across British football is the document drafted by U.E.F.A. outlining the laws of the Common Market countries as it affects pro footballers.

It is all about freedom of movement of players in the nine EEC countries.

Now, I am all for freedom of contract, but this goes too far.

The report says that once a player's contract expires he can sign and play for another club without any transfer fee being agreed.

Of course, it makes a farce of the

whole transfer market because it means that players in the UK will be able to move to the Continent if their contract has run out . . . at give-away prices.

And yet within Scotland and England there will be no such thing, and the current arrangement will still be status quo.

It means that the likes of St Mirren's Frank McGarvey — when his contract ends — would still be unavailable to Arsenal at £250,000, but could sign for St-Etienne for about £120,000.

Does that not strike you as just a little crazy?

Scottish football needs every penny it can get and while we would all love to see a situation where every big name star could stay North of the border, that isn't always possible.

So, if they have to be transferred —

usually to England — it is important that the Scots clubs screw their English counterparts for every last pound.

I go along with what Billy Bremner said a few years back about pro footballers not being white slaves and the transfer system not a slave market.

But this U.E.F.A. scheme is the easy way out. Players can then move to just who fancies them and at the end of the day there will be no point in clubs giving their all to raise young stars.

What would be the point in the Dundee Uniteds of this world carrying on with their marvellous youth policies if foreign clubs could pluck their talent almost at random?

Of course, the one bright spot is that it will work both ways. Hibs, for example, could buy Michel Platini from France for a bargain.

The whole thing will be a farce. U.E.F.A. have agreed on a formula for compensation if two clubs cannot agree on a fee within 30 days of a player switching countries.

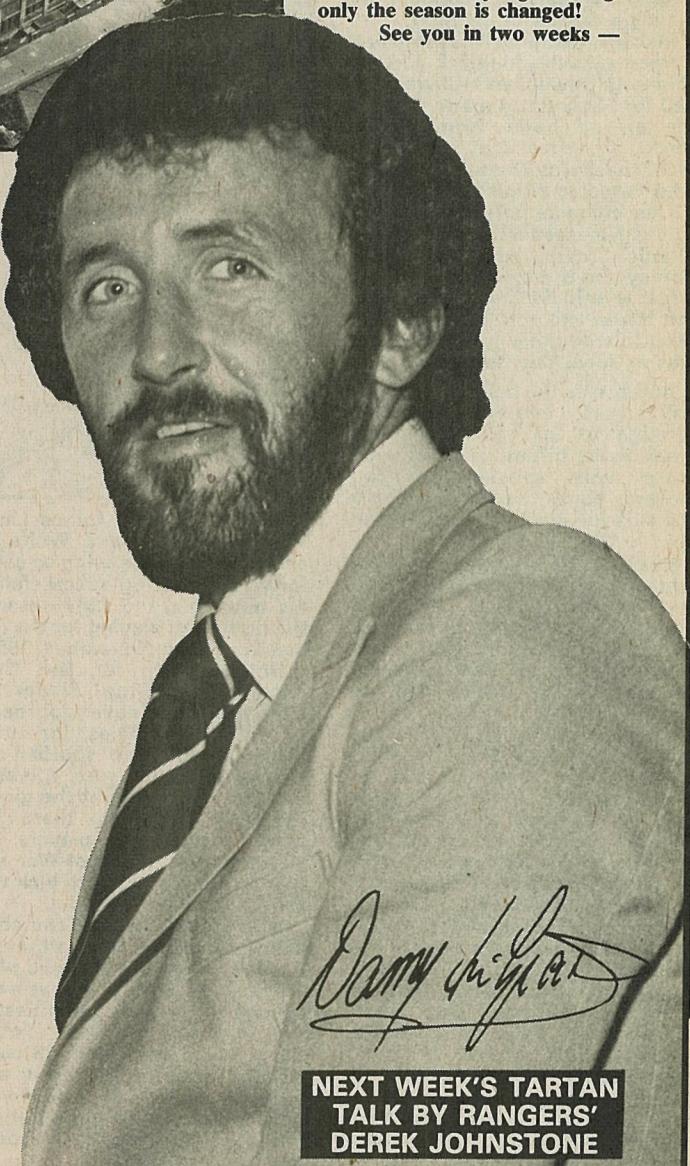
But that isn't much help to Scotland.

The system is based on the player's wage and if McGarvey, for example, were to move to St-Etienne he would have to do so at eight times his gross earnings for the previous year.

If that was £15,000 then he could move for £120,000, well short of his current market value.

There is a song about the crazy days of summer. Crazy right enough . . . only the season is changed!

See you in two weeks —



**NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN
TALK BY RANGERS'
DEREK JOHNSTONE**

THE special magical appeal of the Cup often comes from the intriguing pairings pulled out of the hat. This is often the time when the minnows clash with the mighty, the strugglers meet the splendid, the poor draw the powerful. It takes a brave man to forecast results of these Cup-ties.

But that is precisely what is on the agenda for Scots fans when the Cup kicks-off in earnest on Saturday (Jan. 27). There are many puzzling ties up and down the country with only three out of seven Premier Division sides gaining home draws... and two of them will certainly see the exit of two Top Ten teams!

A lot of the big guns are on dangerous ground, and for three of them there is a touch of the action replays about the Third Round draw. Celtic travel to Montrose, Aberdeen go to Hamilton, and Arbroath face Airdrie. All these sides were drawn against one another in the League Cup earlier in the season!

The tie of the round is surely at Ibrox where holders Rangers take on Ally MacLeod's Motherwell and for the Fir Park side it is the ideal opportunity to settle a long time argument.

Four years ago Motherwell faced the Ibrox side in the Scottish Cup Semi-Final at Hampden and were 2-0 up at half-time with goals from Willie Pettigrew and Stuart McLaren, now with Dundee. But the Champions were given a controversial penalty-kick near the end and Alex Miller scored to spark an amazing fightback. Two goals from Rangers' Derek Johnstone carried his side through to the

EARLY K.O. FOR TWO OF THE TOP TEN

Final, where they destroyed Hearts 3-1.

"I had a feeling we would draw Rangers," said MacLeod. "To be frank, it's not the draw I would have chosen, but you must beat the best at some stage if you hope to win the trophy."

Motherwell, however, are unlikely to halt Rangers progressing to the next round. The Fir Park side haven't had far to look for

PREVIEW

Scottish Cup Third Round



Motherwell boss
Ally MacLeod.



Dundee United's Paul Hegarty beats a Partick defender to the ball.

possess Billy Stark, Billy Abercromby, Frank McGarvey, Tony Fitzpatrick and another fine goalkeeper in Billy Thomson.

It should be a finely balanced game. United could just clinch it in the end, but if it goes to a replay the scales will be tipped in the Paisley side's favour.

The other Premier side with home advantage are Morton, who face St. Johnstone. There should be little problem for the Greenock men in this tie although doubtless Muirton boss Alex Stuart will have his players fighting every inch of the way.

Celtic, who went out to First Division Kilmarnock last season while they were the Cup holders, will hope to reverse that alarming trend when they meet Montrose at Links Park.

This is the fourth time Celtic have taken on Montrose this season. They beat them in a pre-season friendly away from home and then drew 1-1 in the first-leg of their League Cup-tie before settling the match at Parkhead.

It took an Andy Lynch penalty to gain the Celts a draw at Links Park, but the Parkhead side have a more settled look about them now and should go through.

Aberdeen beat Hamilton 1-0 in their League Cup Quarter-Final tie at Douglas Park earlier in the term and were then shocked when their part-time opponents scored first in the second-leg at Pittodrie.

However, The Dons eventually powered their way to an 8-1 aggregate victory, and although they won't score as many goals on Saturday they should still make the Fourth Round draw.

United travelled to Love Street in the Cup and were thrashed 4-1.

It should be a cracker. The clubs have provided some magnificent action in their League clashes this season and there is no reason why this should not be a repeat.

Who will win? United have brilliant players in Davie Narey, Paul Hegarty, Graeme Payne, Raymond Stewart and a resolute goalkeeper in Hamish McAlpine, while Saints

So here are just some of the plum ties in prospect en route to the Final at Hampden. Dreams will be shattered, previously unsung heroes will emerge, and the drama should give the fans plenty to shout about.

Here are some of SHOOT's other tips to progress: Airdrie, Partick Thistle, Dumbarton, Kilmarnock, Hearts, Hibs, Dundee, Ayr and Clydebank.



Motherwell (light strip) met
Rangers in the Semi-Final of the
1976 Scottish Cup tournament.

WHEN David Mills moved from Middlesbrough to West Bromwich Albion in a £500,000 deal he created a British record for an uncapped player. With a £20,000-plus percentage of the fee, and a lucrative four-year contract, the 27-year-old Mills shot into the superstar bracket.

Yet Mills, a player respected by fellow professionals on the Football League circuit, was not swayed by the staggering fee or his change in personal status. "I am no superstar," he declared. "My feet will stay on the ground. Let's face it, it is not so long ago I took some stick from the terraces. And remember I didn't go straight into Albion's first team. I've got to earn my place."

Mills, a cost-nothing local "discovery", was the player Middlesbrough fans loved to hate. Early in his career, his natural enthusiasm and tremendous appetite for the game forced him into many mistakes. He was the target for boos at Ayresome Park.

For a youngster, he showed tremendous courage. He battled on and won over the fans. One of his proudest possessions is a "Player of the Year" statuette, a tribute from the supporters.

Middlesbrough manager John Neal has personal memories of those early days. He recalled a League Cup visit to Ayresome when he was in charge of Wrexham. The fans gave David a terrible time in the match. He was only a young lad and made a



Record-breaking transfer man David Mills insists

'I'M NO SUPERSTAR'

Mills (above right) with manager Ron Atkinson after his £500,000 move to West Brom. In action for Middlesbrough (below), the club he left.

number of mistakes.

"Yet he impressed me. He always wanted to be involved. He worked tremendously hard throughout. I made inquiries for him but was quietly turned down. My interest remained until the day he was chosen at England Under-23 level.

"I knew then he was beyond my reach."

"Fortunately for Middlesbrough, he got through the barrier with the crowd. He made his mark and is now highly respected not only by Middlesbrough fans but at a lot of other clubs. I admire him for his honesty and dedication."

Stan Anderson, now assistant-manager of Bolton Wanderers, earned the credit for signing Mills as a Middlesbrough youngster. "David's strength is his willingness to listen and learn. In his early days he spoilt some of his play by over-enthusiasm, but he has matured a lot over the years and now has more control," explains Anderson.

Mills has a clear picture of the day Jack Charlton called the players together after succeeding



Anderson at Ayresome Park. Big Jack, true to character, said bluntly: "There are some good players, some bad players, and some lazy players."

Mills admitted, "I was left wondering whether I fitted into the good or bad category. Not even my worst enemy could accuse me of being lazy."

Charlton was a major influence on the career of the former England schoolboy.

"He helped to get the boo-boys off my back. He appealed to the supporters to really get behind the team. They listened to him. Jack gave the players tremendous confidence. He often said he was never a great player but one who had worked hard and gained the reward. I believe his philosophy is right," says David.

When Middlesbrough clinched the Second Division Championship in 1973-74, Jack's first season, Mills had the thrill of scoring the vital goal against rivals Luton. Weeks later he was picked for both the England Under-23 and senior squads.

After touring Yugoslavia, Turkey

and France, Mills was a late choice for the senior squad as substitute for Stan Bowles. It was a thrill for the boy from the Second Division backwoods to mix with the big-time stars. Yet he returned home a little disillusioned.

Mills was not chosen for any game by Joe Mercer, who was in charge of the England team. "I am not sure whether he even recognised an unknown. The lads used to joke Joe thought I was a hotel waiter!"

The move to ambitious Albion could win Mills a long-delayed full cap. Naturally, he is thrilled at the prospect.

"Joining a big-city club could put me into the limelight again. West Brom are involved in the First Division Championship fight and, on the face of it, could be involved in Europe again next season."

Manager Ron Atkinson rates Mills a high quality player of experience and class. If Albion finish among the honours, and Mills gets the nod from England manager Ron Greenwood, the record-breaking transfer will make everyone happy.



STEVE WICKS
Chelsea

SHOOT!